

OUR 117TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

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APRIL 14, 2005

75 CENTS

FLIPPING OVER SPRING WEATHER



The on-again, off-again return of warmer weather, and the reappearance of grass, has had many in Andover excited. In fact, from left, Justin Sonberg, Alec Dean, Devin Dean and Jonathan Bailey went head over heels recently. More spring photos, page 23.

Current senior center How many does it serve?

By Andrea Gregory

Some men at the Andover Senior Center simultaneously play pingpong while continuing an ongoing game of bridge. They are not super seniors, just men who know both activities are available only once per week because of space constraints, says Acting Elder Services Director Kathy Urquhart.

Because the activities happen to overlap, these men try to squeeze in time at both the pingpong and bridge tables, taking turns and sharing hands, she says. But if a new senior center is built, seniors could drop in to play either pingpong or cards almost whenever they chose, she indicated.

In two weeks, Town Meeting voters will decide whether to spend \$7.6 million to build a 28,100 square-foot building next to Doherty Middle School on what is now a small soccer field. The current center is about 11,000 square feet.

Town Meeting voters will want the answers to several

questions if they are to approve the money for the larger center. And among the most important might be these: *How much is the current center used? And, would a new center be used more?*

Current center's use

Senior center staff say more than 1,000 people use the center and its services per week, which

includes students in intergenerational programs. Actually, and technically, they say that there are about 1,000 "units served." A woman who receives Meals on Wheels at her home each day would count as five units each week. And someone who attends two offerings in one day - such as an art course and lunch - would count as two units.

Data collected over four random weeks last year shows how many people - units, really - came to the center. During the weeks beginning Sept. 27, Oct. 18, Nov. 8 and Dec. 6, an aver-

Continued on page 4

INSIDE
Two weeks
in the life
of the center
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MEET THE NEW BOSSES...

Assistant principals move up at two middle schools

By Rita Savard

The search for new principals at Doherty and Wood Hill middle schools is over, but the successors are hardly strangers to their posts.

Doherty Assistant Principal Bruce Maki, and Wood Hill Assistant Principal Patrick Bucco have been selected by Superintendent Claudia Bach to lead their schools.

Principal Floyd McManus

of Doherty and Principal Norah McCarthy of Wood Hill each retire on June 30.

"I'm very excited and looking forward to new challenges," said Maki, talking in the halls of Doherty with McManus and a few students.

"This puts Mr. Maki in a great position to carry out the initiatives we've worked for together," added McManus, who said he was delighted to

hear the news of Maki's promotion. The two administrators have worked alongside one another for the past 14 years.

McManus said Bach's decision to appoint Maki as principal speaks volumes for his track record at the school.

The Doherty Principal Search Committee had reviewed 41 applications, and 10 people were invited to be interviewed. From that group, two finalists were selected, including Maki and Joellen Scannell, Duxbury Middle School principal. Scannell was also chosen as a finalist for Wood Hill.

In a letter sent out to Doherty parents last week, Bach stated that after choosing Maki, she learned Scannell had already accepted another position in a different district. "Frankly I was pleased for her, because already I had decided that Mr. Maki was the better fit," Bach wrote.

Doherty students also seemed happy with the superintendent's choice.

"He's going to make a great principal," said Barbara George, 14. "I think he knows practically every student's name and what they're interested in."

Continued on page 2

Parents question teacher's release

By Rita Savard

Pleas for Superintendent Claudia Bach to rehire the town's prekindergarten special education teacher, turned teary and emotional Tuesday night when parents argued their case before the School Committee.

Nine parents of special needs students - representing a group of 27 who petitioned their cause before the superintendent last Thursday - asked the committee to appeal Bach's decision not to renew Suzy Fischer's teaching contract.

Parents said they are shocked and angry that none of them were asked to take part in a decision that directly affects their children's well-being. When seeking answers as to why Fischer was dismissed, parents said Bach had "stonewalled" talks.

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PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Doherty Middle School Assistant Principal Bruce Maki points out remarks the students wrote for outgoing Principal Floyd McManus on a giant thank-you card at the school. Maki will replace McManus next year, and Wood Hill Middle Assistant Principal Patrick Bucco will replace Norah McCarthy.



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Edna Powell plays bingo at the Andover Senior Center during a recent Friday. Based on a four-week average, about 197 people enter the center each Friday, its busiest day, and more are served by programs offsite, including Meals on Wheels.

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PRINCIPALS SELECTED

Continued from page 1

"He's always here in the morning," added Andy Lyman, 14. "He says, 'Hi' to everyone and really wants to know how you are doing."

After meeting with parents, staff and students at Wood Hill, Bach said she found Bucco had been instrumental in the school's achievements. She officially appointed Bucco as Principal Norah McCarthy's successor on Saturday.

"I was happy to hear the news," said Bucco, adding that one of his first goals as principal will be creating a strong administrative team.

Bucco has been assistant principal at Wood Hill for the past three years. He said he has appreciated working with McCarthy every step of the way.

"Norah looks toward the future and keeps her eye on the prize, as I do," said Bucco. "You always think about how what you are doing is going to best benefit the students. It's been great working with someone who shares the same beliefs and seeing that what you believe in can work. It's affirming."

In a letter to the Wood Hill parent community on Monday, Bach wrote, "Everyone agreed that Mr. Bucco always puts chil-

dren first."

She added that some students had weighed in with their own perceptive insights. In an e-mail message, one parent informed Bach that her son had said, "What I really like about Mr. Bucco is he really likes his job and the students, and you know he is not just pretending."

The Wood Hill Middle School search team had also conducted a site visit at Groton-Dunstable Middle School where they met with the superintendent, district administrators, staff and parents on behalf of principal Beth Raucci, who was a candidate along with Bucco and Scannell.

In the end, Bach noted Bucco had helped one of the town's newest school's create its own identity, and said she believed the school would continue to grow and flourish under his leadership.

Both successors assume their posts on July 1. But don't expect big changes.

Standing in the Doherty School main lobby, Maki said he thought a thank-you card written to McManus from a student captured the moment best: "Make sure Mr. Maki keeps the school the way you left it. It's perfect the way it is now."



Soon-to-be principal Patrick Bucco

TOWN MEETING

Repairs sought at town schools

By Rita Savard

The crumbling steps leading to the doors of Memorial Auditorium are becoming such a safety hazard they could soon be closed off to the public, says Plant and Facilities Director Joe Piantedosi.

Fixing the situation is how some of the \$1.5 million in tax dollars asked for in Town Meeting warrant article 11 would be used. The money would replace the auditorium stairs and pay for the costs of building reconstruction and renovation at six town schools.

Piantedosi says some of the major maintenance projects cited for repairs can no longer be delayed.

The dilapidated brick and mortar in front of the Andover Veterans World War I Memorial Auditorium, has resurfaced in the town's Capital Improvement Budget for about seven years. At an estimated cost of \$250,000, the facilities director says the huge expense has kept



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

The steps and exterior to Memorial Auditorium, attached to Doherty Middle School and facing the Park, will receive a facelift if Article 11 passes at Town Meeting. This project is one of several bundled in the \$1.5 million request for "school building reconstruction and renovation."

voters from passing the article in the past.

"The steps are way beyond repair now," Piantedosi says. "The whole base of the stairs is deteriorated and needs to be completely rebuilt."

Wobbly hand railings are now being held in place by several shims, and other pieces of the antiquated facade have proven to be just as unstable, says veterans agent John Doherty.

Historically, veterans gather at the auditoriums steps each Memorial Day - excluding last year when they dedicated the town's World War II Memorial in the Park.

About two years ago, Doherty says, a 20-pound piece of plaster that might have been part of the memorial's stone eagle came crashing down about five feet from his head.

"There is no doubt that the building needs attention," Doherty says. "That whole complex has been rehabilitated, but its center keeps getting neglected."

If voters approve funding for the project, Piantedosi says construction of the new stairs and exterior walls will maintain the same architectural appearance and could be completed in eight weeks or less, possibly over the summer.

ARTICLE 11

School Maintenance

DOHERTY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Rebuild exterior stairs/masonry work, Memorial Auditorium **\$250,000**

BANCROFT ELEMENTARY
Remodel student bathrooms/window, flooring replacements **\$175,000**

Partial roof replacement **\$200,000**
Electrical upgrade/emergency power **\$150,000**

ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL
Replace Collins Center stage floor **\$250,000**
Remodel student bathrooms **\$100,000**

WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Partial roof replacement/interior renovations **\$250,000**

WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
Remodel student, faculty bathrooms **\$50,000**

SHAWSHEN SCHOOL
Remodel student and faculty bathrooms/flooring replacements **\$50,000**

SYSTEM
Architectural/Engineering/Structural designs **\$25,000**

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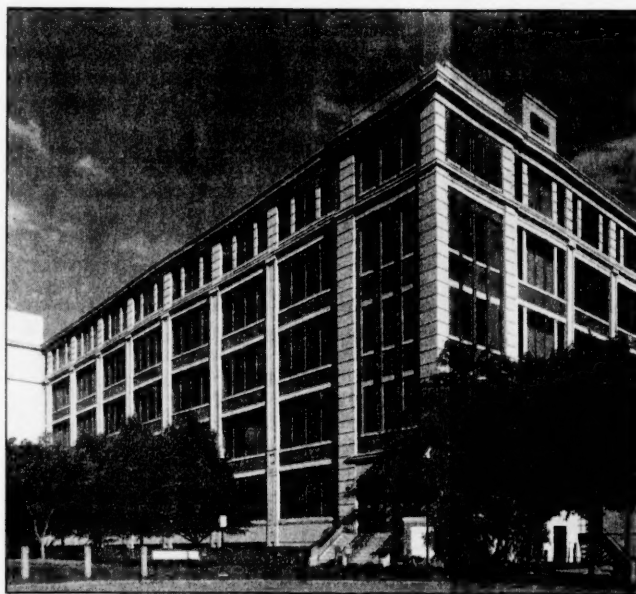
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IN BRIEF

PAST AND PRESENT



OLDER PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. MODERN-DAY PHOTO BY TIM JEAN
Before the turn of the last century, the Elm House in Elm Square in downtown Andover was purchased by John Flint. The building, seen in the top photo, was dismantled in 1894. Flint's in-laws invested heavily in a new building at the site — today's Musgrove Building, named in honor of Sir John Musgrove of England, who left the family a large bequest.

Tsunami Relief Fund surpasses goal at PA

The Tsunami Relief Fund of Phillips Academy has surpassed its goal and raised \$10,906 to aid relief efforts in Southeast Asia. Just days after the tsunami struck Dec. 26, students, faculty and staff began donating money and planning events to aid the relief efforts. The money collected will be distributed to five organizations, which were researched and selected by students and faculty: American Red Cross, Americares, UNICEF, Sri Lanka Tsunami Relief Fund and Asha for Education.

Biology instructor Raj Mundra will be traveling to the area this summer and will meet with representatives of some of the recipient organizations.

"A fund-raising initiative of this magnitude was made possible through both the tremendous generosity of our community and the tireless efforts of many students, faculty and staff," said Chad Green, director of community service, in a release. "Perhaps even more significant than the final dollar amount raised is the fact that literally hundreds of individuals contributed to our efforts. We share a special responsibility to continue to look outward and act on behalf of our local and global community."

Vehicle, real estate taxes due to town

The town of Andover has mailed the 2005 excise bills with an issue date of March 8, due 30 days from the date of issue. Any questions regarding adjustments to the bills should be directed to the assessors' office.

The town of Andover has also mailed the real estate tax bill for the Fiscal Year 2005 fourth quarter. Payment is due Monday, May 2. Taxes unpaid after that date are subject to interest charges of 14 percent. The Town Offices at 36 Bartlet St. are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Payments can be mailed in the envelope provided or dropped in the white mailbox with the blue town-of-Andover seal in front of Town Offices. The tax collectors' office will also be open Monday, May 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Residents who have questions or who have not received a bill, should call 978-623-8200.

Police auction

The Andover Police Auction of bikes and other unclaimed property will be held Saturday, May 7 at 10 a.m., with a rain date of May 14 at the same time. The auction will be at the Andover Police Department, by the upper double garage doors of the public safety building at 32 North Main St.

Police have about 70 bicycles and a wide assortment of property, from car radios to a Fender Bassman amp to skis.

Quote, unquote . . .

I DON'T GOLF, don't like daytime television, so I might as well type.

— Author and former Andover resident Robert Parker, 73, who continues writing the popular Spenser series of novels, and other books. The TV show Spenser: For Hire starring the late Robert Urich, another former Andover resident, were based on Parker's novels. (Story in Arts & Entertainment, page 15)

THERE WAS TOO MUCH WIND and no visibility, and it was not safe for my non-skiing guests to take the chairlift.

— Meredith (Emery) Bussiere, Andover High physical education teacher, talking about why the unusual plans for her wedding atop a ski mountain had to be altered. (TownTalk, page 23)

News Calendar

Thursday, April 14

Contributory Retirement Board, Town Offices, third floor, 9 a.m.

Board of Assessors, Town Offices, Assessors Conference Room, second floor, 9 a.m.

School Committee, Work Session, School Administration Building, 7 p.m.

Spring Grove Cemetery Trustees, Town Offices, Plant & Facilities conference room, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19

Finance Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7 p.m.

School Committee, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, third floor, 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20

Recycling Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 22

Contributory Retirement Board, Town Offices, third floor, 8 a.m.

Monday, April 25

School Committee, regular meeting at 6 p.m. at Andover High Media Center; Town Meeting follows at 7 p.m.

Planning Board, meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Field House, Andover High School; Town Meeting follows at 7 p.m.

Town Meeting, Field House, Andover High School, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 26

Planning Board, Field House, Andover High School (prior to Town Meeting), 6:30 p.m.

Town Meeting, Field House, Andover High School, 7 p.m.

Blood drive: Give to Red Cross, see Red Sox

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Thursday, April 28 at Saint Robert's Church, 198 Haggetts Pond Road in Andover. This drive will run from 2 to 7 p.m. Walk-in donors are welcome.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and the World Champion Boston Red Sox have joined with the American Red Cross to increase blood donations throughout the 2005 baseball season. All those who come to donate blood throughout the New England and Connecticut Regions before Sept. 16 can enter to win the honor of becoming the Blood Donor of the Game. In addition to winning two tickets to a game at Fenway Park, the Blood Donor of the Game will be presented with a special commemorative souvenir and photograph, as well as a special recognition on both TV and radio broadcasts of

the game. To donate blood through the American Red Cross, donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in general good health. Donors can give blood every eight weeks, or six times a year. For additional information regarding eligibility or to find out where to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.newenglandblood.org.

Hear from one of America's 'most influential people'

Free event with watchdog, third-party candidate Ralph Nader, at Phillips

Ralph Nader, consumer advocate and Green Party presidential candidate, will speak at 7 p.m. Friday, April 22, in Cochran Chapel, 2 Chapel Ave., on the Phillips Academy campus. The event, free and open to the public, is made possible by the John M. Kemper Memorial Fund.

Honored by *Time* magazine as "One of the 100 Most Influential Americans of the Twentieth Century," Nader works to give ordinary people the tools they need to defend themselves against corporate negligence and government indifference, organizers said.

In 1965, he took on the auto industry with his book, *Unsafe at Any Speed*.

The Senate hearing into his accusations and the life-saving motor vehicle safety laws that resulted catapulted Nader into the public sphere. Working with lawmakers, he was instrumental in creating the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Working to empower the average American, Nader has formed numerous citizen groups, including the Center for Auto Safety, Public Citizen, the Pension Rights Center, the National Coalition for Universities in the Public Interest and the student Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs), which operate in more than 20 states.

In his latest citizen initiative, he is working with alumni classes, including his own at Princeton University and Harvard Law School, to expand their efforts to community projects that sys-

temically advance social justice. Nader organized the Green Party's first presidential campaign in 1996 to challenge what he calls the "duopoly" of the two-party system. His goal is to build the foundation of a third political party and a robust progressive political movement.

Among his best-selling books are *Winning the Insurance Game: Why Women Pay More*, *Getting the Best From Your Doctor and Crashing the Party: How to Tell the Truth and Still Run for President*.

He also writes a weekly column, "In the Public Interest," which runs in newspapers around the United States.

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SENIOR CENTER USE

Continued from page 1

age of 1,080 people a week used some kind of elder-care service. But less than 70 percent of that number represent people who actually came into the center.

More than one-quarter of these numbers represent people who receive Meals on Wheels in their home. For instance, during the week of Dec. 6, 340 of the 1,010 units served, or 34 percent, were Meals on Wheels recipients.

Also, some classes and services are offered offsite. During the week of Dec. 6, 122 people, or 12 percent, represented people served at locations other than the senior center, including 42 elementary and college students.

Even with a new center, some offerings, such as water aerobics, would continue to be offered off-site, because they require specific items such as a swimming pool. But other programs, such as regular aerobics courses, are only conducted elsewhere because the current center does not always have the space to accommodate them each day.

Urquhart says a new center would allow for new activities in addition to the approximately 60 activities offered, but mostly would help the center to offer its popular programs more frequently.

"I would imagine that there would be more offered. A lot of it is what we are only able to offer occasionally (now) — such as pingpong or bridge — would be offered more," she said. "It would certainly allow us to schedule aerobics three times per week (instead of the current two)."

New center used more?

Proponents of a new center argue that it would bring the majority of the classes and services into one location, making it easier for seniors to participate in a number of activities, while building a stronger sense of community. The new center would be able to provide places for people to meet and talk.

The current senior center has had a pool table for years, but simply no place to put it permanently. It's the same with its pingpong table, which gets some use because it is more lightweight and portable. A game room would house both of these large pieces of furniture in the



A group of seniors during a recent bingo Friday. The center offers about 60 different programs and services, but bingo remains one of the most popular.

proposed center, said Urquhart, pointing to the designated area on a printout of the floor plan. Nearby, card tables would be set up.

While she estimates that between one-half and one-third of Andover seniors already use the center or services provided by the center, Urquhart said she expects the numbers to increase with a new center. She also said how long someone stays is likely to increase with additional space. Right now, some seniors might only come to the center once a week. The current set up does not invite seniors to spend the day or remain after their programs are over because workers often have to spend time setting up and then breaking down rooms for specific functions.

There are a few chairs pushed up against the wall and a soda machine in the front hallway of the center. But Urquhart said it is not an ideal place to sit with friends.

Edna Powell goes to the senior center every day for lunch. She said after and before lunch there is not much seniors can do unless they are signed up for a specific class or event. The

limited space is often booked, and the only place to gather is in the hallway. Powell said she could see herself and other seniors sticking around more if there was a more social area.

Aside from her daily lunch visits, Powell is also a big bingo fan and joins about 40 of her peers every Friday, hoping to call, "Bingo!"

While she sat at the end of one of the bingo tables with several cards in front of her during a recent Friday, the entranceway to the senior center was quiet.

As she continued to place bingo chips on her bingo cards, Powell said she hopes to see a new center in her lifetime. "If I have my way, it will (happen)," said Powell. "It will be big enough to have everyone meet at the same time. Space-wise, I think they need a lot more space."

Powell said she will be there to vote on the senior center articles at Town Meeting. Around the center, Powell is known as a lucky lady who tends to win wherever she goes, according to a number of her bingo mates. Powell laughs when her friends say such things.

"B-8," said the bingo caller. Powell placed a red chip on the square and yelled, "Bingo!"

Happy with the modest cash prize, Powell said she definitely hopes the same luck follows her to Town Meeting. But the outcome will have less to do with luck and more to do with how people view the numbers, and the need for the proposed center.

Neil Fater contributed to this story.

TWO WEEKS IN THE LIFE

Week of Nov. 8 - 12, 2004

MONDAY AT THE CENTER			WEDNESDAY AT THE CENTER		
TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED	TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED
9-11 a.m.	Choral group	27 people	8-9:30 a.m.	2 strength-training classes	27
9 to 11 a.m.	Wood-carving	2	8-11:30 a.m.	Art group	7
9 to 11:30 a.m.	Quilting	14	9-11:30 a.m.	"Shop" group	7
9:20-11:45 a.m.	Massage	6	9:30-11 a.m.	Beginner Tap Dance	4
noon to 1 p.m.	Lunch	44	12-1 p.m.	Lunch in cafeteria	43
1 to 3:30 p.m.	Movie matinees	16	2-4 p.m.	Blood pressure	16
1 to 4 p.m.	Cribbage	4	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Intermediate yoga	11
1 to 3 p.m.	Needle art	(no class)	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	12
1 to 3 p.m.	Art instruction	8	Also, at other sites		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	18	• Meal on Wheels delivered to 65 people		

Also, at other sites
 • Meal on Wheels delivered to 69 people
 • 10-11 a.m., mentoring, 12 seniors and 12 students at Bancroft School
 • 1-2:30, beginner yoga, 8 people, at Old Town Hall
 • 1:30-4, beginner computer, 13 people, at Memorial Hall Library
 (The day before, Sunday, Nov. 7, 14 people went on a trip)

TUESDAY AT THE CENTER			THURSDAY CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY		
TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED	TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED
8 to 9 a.m.	Men's exercise	7 people	8-9:30 a.m.	Strength Training (2 classes)	26
10 to 11 a.m.	Writing group	9	12-1 p.m.	Lunch in cafeteria	46
12 to 1 p.m.	Lunch	48	1-4:30 p.m.	Bingo	31
12 to 1:30 p.m.	Brown bag lunch	12	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	13
1 to 3 p.m.	Cribbage	3	Also, at other sites		
1 to 2 p.m.	Tai chi	6	• Meal on Wheels delivered to 68 people		
1:30-3:30 p.m.	Chronic Conditioning	9	• 10:30 to noon, "Bridges" intergenerational program involving 20 seniors and 80 students		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	14			

Also, at other sites
 • Meal on Wheels delivered to 67 people
 • 9-10 a.m., aerobics, 15 people, Old Town Hall
 • 9-10 a.m., water aerobics, 10 people, Wyndham Hotel
 • 9:30-11 a.m., coffee hour, 10 people, senior housing
 • 2:30-4:30 p.m., cable TV group, 10 people, cable TV studio

Week of Oct. 18-22, 2004

MONDAY AT THE CENTER			WEDNESDAY AT THE CENTER		
TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED	TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED
9-11 a.m.	Choral group	22 people	9-11:30 a.m.	"Shop" group	9
9 to 11 a.m.	Wood-carving	6	9:30-11 a.m.	Beginner Tap Dance	6
9 to 11:30 a.m.	Quilting	11	12-1 p.m.	Lunch in cafeteria	38
9:20-11:45 a.m.	Massage	4	2-4 p.m.	Blood pressure	15
noon to 1 p.m.	Lunch	36	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Intermediate yoga	10
1 to 3:30 p.m.	Movie Matinees	6	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	13
1 to 4 p.m.	Cribbage	4	Also, at other sites		
1 to 3 p.m.	Needle art	8	• Meal on Wheels delivered to 72 people		
1 to 3 p.m.	Art instruction	7	• 1-2:30 p.m., intermediate tap dance, 11 people, at Dance Infusion		
1:30-4:30 p.m.	Fix-It Shop	10	• 1:30-3:30 p.m., computer e-mail and Internet, 4 people, at Old Town Hall		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	14			

Also, at other sites
 • Meal on Wheels delivered to 72 people
 • 7:30-10 a.m., nature walk, 8 people
 • 10-11 a.m., mentoring, 12 seniors and 12 students at Bancroft School
 • 1-2:30, beginner yoga, 8 people, at Old Town Hall

TUESDAY AT THE CENTER			THURSDAY		
TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED	TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED
8 to 9 a.m.	Men's exercise	7 people	8-9 a.m.	Men's exercise	4
9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Podiatry clinic	16	8-11:30 a.m.	Art group	11
10 to 11 a.m.	Writing group	10	9-10:30 a.m.	Cable group	14
12 to 1 p.m.	Lunch	23	10-11 a.m.	Line Dance	4
1 to 3 p.m.	Cribbage	3	12-1 p.m.	Lunch	36
1 to 2 p.m.	Tai chi	6	1-4 p.m.	Men's bridge	2
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Senior Connections	13	1-2:30 p.m.	Spirituality	2
Also, at other sites			1:30-2:30 p.m.	Easy Exercise	4

Also, at other sites
 • Meal on Wheels delivered to 72 people
 • 9-10 a.m., aerobics, 16 people, Old Town Hall
 • 9-10 a.m., water aerobics, canceled, pool closed
 • 2:30-4:30 p.m., cable TV group, 13 people, cable TV studio
 • 1:30-3:30 p.m., beginner computer, 2 people, at Old Town Hall

WEDNESDAY AT THE CENTER			FRIDAY AT THE CENTER		
TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED	TIME	PROGRAM	PEOPLE SERVED
8-9:30 a.m.	2 strength-training classes	28	8-9:30 a.m.	Strength Training (2 classes)	25
8-11:30 a.m.	Art group	4	9:30-11 a.m.	Social Worker Breakfast	4

Also, at other sites
 • Meal on Wheels delivered to 69 people
 • 10:30 to noon, "Bridges" intergenerational program involving 20 seniors and 80 students

TWO VOTES NEEDED

Town Meeting voters will take the first step to decide whether Andover should spend \$7.6 million to build a 28,100 square-foot building next to Doherty Middle School. It will take two rounds of approval — one at Town Meeting and one at the ballot box — to make the money available. The funding is being proposed through a debt-exclusion override, which is a one-time tax increase for a specific purpose. Residents will help to pay off a bond over the next 20 years, and then the debt will be off the books. At its highest point, the project will cost the average taxpayer an additional \$51 for the year.

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SENIOR CENTER'S SENIOR CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

'It's been a godsend'

Program helps serve those with early Alzheimer's, others – and families

By Rita Savard

Each morning when Milton "Buzz" Bunker leaves for work, he finds comfort knowing his wife is safe and in the company of good friends.

Monday through Friday, Evelyn Bunker, 75, spends her days exercising, writing and joining in activities with other members of the Andover Senior Center's Senior Connections Program.

Since Evelyn Bunker was diagnosed with the early stages of Alzheimer's disease last year, she can no longer drive and her husband is not comfortable leaving her home alone all day. Buzz Bunker says that without the center's elder care services, their lives would be very different today.

"It has been a godsend," said Bunker. "It's been great for me because I can go to work every day and know that she's being well cared for. It's excellent for Evelyn because she's interacting with other people and maintaining her independence."

Evelyn Bunker is one of 35 members currently enrolled in the senior care program that provides a place for elders, who might otherwise be isolated at home, to socialize and enjoy a variety of activities and events.

As Town Meeting voters prepare to vote in two weeks on the appropriation of funds for a new and larger facility for seniors, Katherine Urquhart, acting director of the Senior Center, says the center's elder care service is one of the programs that would reap the benefits of added space.

"A large population of baby boomers will be turning 60 next year," Urquhart says. "As Andover residents grow older, we will see an increase in demand for programs like these as more people need to (use) them."

A wide range of people use the program, according to Marion Aziz, Senior Connections Coordinator. Some have been diagnosed with the early stages of memory loss typical from Alzheimer's or dementia. Others are introverts by nature and better enjoy socializing within a smaller group, Aziz says.

For retired school teacher Margaret Hopwood, 91, Senior Connections was a gateway to making new friends after relocating to her son's home from Rhode Island.

"It was the answer for me,"

says Hopwood. "It gave me a place to go during the day where I can meet with my own friends, and not have to feel like a burden to anyone."

Hopwood, who has a walking disability, uses a walker to aid her mobility. But directors say that does not lessen her activity choices.

A daily schedule packed with things to do can be designed to fit individual needs, they say. Seniors are welcome at elder care for as little as a portion of one day to all day, five days a week.

One of the perks of Senior Connections for many family members is the transportation service. If a family member can not provide transportation, the senior center will arrange rides for Andover residents.

"This place is my home away from home," says Evelyn Bunker, who begins square dancing lessons this week. "Everyone here is like my second family."

Wearing a blue "VOTE YES" pin, Urquhart says her wish is to provide more seniors such quality-of-life services in the future.

Pursuing a multi-generational community center, the preference of some town officials such as Selectmen Chairman Brian Major, would push back development by years, Urquhart says.

"Seniors have been waiting for a new facility for such a long time now," the director says. "We've already talked about parking being an issue, and other sites have already been looked at and rejected throughout the years. By prolonging the building even further, you'd be selling short both programs (seniors and youth), and what is the point in that?"



Evelyn Bunker, 75, spends her days at the senior center's Senior Connections program, while her husband is at work. She says, "This place is my home away from home."

Town Meeting issue forum tonight

The League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover will conduct its annual public forum on Town Meeting warrant articles tonight, Thursday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Andover's Memorial Hall Library.

The event is free and open to the public. For those who will be unable to attend, the LWV warrant forum will be aired live on Andover cable television station 22 and rebroadcast periodically until the April 25 Town Meeting.

During the forum, members of the League of Women Voters of Andover say they will present balanced information including the pros and cons of selected warrant articles to be voted on at this year's Town Meeting. "We make every effort to help voters understand the warrant arti-

cles before they go to Town Meeting," said Peggy Kruse, LWV President and moderator of the event. "There is a lot of material for people to try to read, understand, and investigate on their own."

Warrant articles that will be discussed include: the creation of a fund to handle the NESWC monies, the proposed senior center, town-yard issues, water-related proposals, downtown signage, school security, sewer expansion, and a zoning bylaw amendment for age-restricted developments. LWV members Alix Driscoll, Diane Hender, Stefani Traina Goldshein, Lolli Sumberg, and others will speak on the warrant articles.

2005 Town Meeting begins Monday, April 25

The Annual Town Meeting will be held in Andover on April 25, 26 at the Andover High School Field House and if needed, May 2, 3 at the Collins Center at Andover High School on Shawsheen Road. The meetings will start at 7 p.m. each night.

A shuttle bus will run from the parking lot on Red Spring Road and will make a loop through the West Middle School parking lot. Shuttle service will start at 6:15 p.m. and end at 11 p.m.

All registered voters that

attend Town Meeting will need to be checked into the meeting in the lobby of Andover High School on April 25 and 26 and the lobby of the Collins Center on May 2 and 3. They can also visit the town Web site at www.andoverma.gov and do a precinct search under the town clerk option. The town recommends that residents check their precinct numbers before going to the meeting to avoid delays at the check-in area.

Call the town clerk's office at 978-623-8258 for more.

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Thursday, April 7 - At 6:54 a.m., Mark Blanchette, 27, of 81 Avalon Drive, Peabody, was arrested and charged on two outstanding motor-vehicle warrants.

Saturday, April 9 - At 2:01 p.m., Peter Lowney, 35, of P.O. Box 2642, Valdez, Ark., was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and willful violation of a town bylaw.

At 6:44 p.m., Shaun R. Strong, 23, homeless, was arrested on Post Office Avenue and charged on an outstanding warrant. Police transported Strong to the Middleton House of Corrections.

Sunday, April 10 - At 10:40 a.m., Kenneth Dinmore, 45, of 6 Standish Road, Haverhill, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked license and charged on a warrant for shoplifting.

Tuesday, April 12 - At 1:34 p.m., the Greater Lawrence Technical School told police that two females were trespassing and creating a problem. Police arrested and charged the two juveniles with trespassing. The girls were both transported back to Lowell, where police said they were from.

At 4:27 p.m., Market Basket on North Main Street reported a shoplifter. Police arrested and charged a juvenile for shoplifting, who was later released to his mother.

BREAKS

Monday, April 11 - At 9:33 p.m., a High Street resident reported

that his or her apartment had been broken into.

THEFTS

Saturday, April 9 - At 2:19 p.m., a resident reported that a bicycle was stolen from the family's garage at Whispering Pines Drive. An officer reported that some additional items had also been taken, including a purse.

INCIDENTS

Wednesday, April 6 - At 7:51 a.m., a 69-year-old resident reported that she had been feeling sick for a few days and might harm herself. An ambulance was dispatched and police reported that the patient was taken to the hospital.

At 9:04 a.m., a Brady Loop resident notified police that there was a bat in the resident's home.

At 12:15 p.m., a resident was burning leaves in the street on Argilla Road.

At 4:26 p.m., a resident requested to speak with a police officer regarding a female who keeps coming to the family's house and harassing them. Police reported that the troublesome female was known to the family.

At 5:15 p.m., train security reported four teens putting metal objects on the tracks. Police checked the area but found nothing.

At 6:58 p.m., a resident told police that her 27-year-old son had "gone crazy" in the house and was destroying his things. When police

Continued on page 6

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PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Selectmen are looking for quicker turnover in Shawsheen Square, eliminating some all-day parking spaces.

PARKING CHANGE

Shorter stays in Shawsheen Square

By Dorian Block

Local business owners say it will be easier to take a guitar lesson or eat a quick breakfast in Shawsheen Square once parking regulations approved by the selectmen Monday night are implemented this month.

Selectmen voted unanimously to change the parking rules on Poor Street and Route 133 from "No Parking" and unlimited parking to 30-minute and two-hour parking spots. This will prevent commuters from parking on the street all day and open up new spots for those shopping in the area.

"It makes sense for merchants," said Safety Officer Robert Cronin. "It is stop-and-go type of parking, for the short errand."

Cronin said he received a letter from several merchants including The Shawsheen Luncheonette, Shawsheen Village Liquors, E & J Music, Coco's of Andover and Andover Hockey Shop requesting the parking

changes. Short-term parking is common in the downtown area of Andover, but this is a first for Shawsheen Square.

Robert Frishman, 53 Poor St., said the changes are long overdue and "a good start." He believes parking should be banned altogether on Route 133.

"It is silly to see 40 cars lined up to squeak through the square," he said of the crowding caused by the parked cars blocking what could be a left-hand-turn lane on the street. "It's bizarre."

He said people driving the wrong way down the one-way portion of Poor Street create an even larger safety hazard.

"There's a steady flow of people disobeying the one-way on that street," Frishman said, even noting that popular Internet service mapquest.com sends people the wrong way down the street.

Cronin agreed that this is a problem area and said they will keep working with residents and merchants to improve the situation.

TOWN MEETING

Developers to drop 55+ housing article

Details still need refinement to allow more high-density senior housing

By Dorian Block

Developer Willard Perkins said he will withdraw his Town Meeting article calling for high-density elderly housing in areas now zoned for single-family homes.

Perkins went before the Housing Partnership Committee and Planning Board with the article, and both boards wanted many questions answered before they would recommend Town Meeting support it.

Because of those questions and the fact that Town Meeting is April 25, Perkins said he will withdraw the article. Articles tend to receive more support at Town Meeting if they are supported by the town boards.

"Almost every town in Massachusetts or Southern New Hampshire already has (similar) by-laws or is working on them," Perkins said. "I just think to some extent I caught the Planning Board off guard."

The article, if approved, would have allowed Perkins and Eric McCarthy of

Hearthstone Realty to double the number of units for their planned six-home development called White Pine Woods off Harold Parker Road.

The wider effect of the vote would be to let developers build larger projects in certain parts of Andover, as long as they are for people 55 and older.

"We have no problem with the concept or philosophy," Planning Director Stephen Colyer said about the article. "But it's the nuts and bolts of how you do it — where it's allowed, how much is allowed, what kinds of services are offered."

The article will have to be withdrawn by Perkins on the floor of Town Meeting because it is already on the warrant.

Perkins said he hopes there will be a Special Town Meeting in the fall so he can bring up the article again, and if not he'll reluctantly wait another year. He said waiting a year will mean several developers who could make their housing for those 55

and older will not.

"There is such a demand for this," Perkins said. "I think it's crazy to build more huge houses in Andover. I think we have far too fewer other options. People want to downsize into condos and small homes."

McCarthy said the warrant article was only partially out of self-interest.

"We do have a project where it could apply, but our position is more general than that," he said. "There are people who have their roots here in town and they're here to stay and they need some options."

He said this project is tiny compared to the two affordable housing developments they are involved in around town, and adding six units is not their first priority.

Selectman Brian Major said it is common that "such a large article" is pulled from Town Meeting and pushed to a future meeting so that specific details can be fleshed out.

POLICE LOG

■ INCIDENTS

Continued from page 5

arrived to the house, the son was gone.

Thursday, April 7 - At 12:29 a.m., an employee from Mass Bay Commuter Railroad reported three men intoxicated on the 12:43 a.m. train, bound for Andover. Officer Daniel Leonard transported the men to a friend's house at Aberdeen Condos.

At 9:41 a.m., Andover High School Assistant Principal Tom Mead requested that an officer come speak to a student who was caught pulling a fire alarm at the school.

At 1:19 p.m., Assistant Principal Tom Mead reported that there was a suspect in Andover High's recent fire alarm incidents and requested an officer to stand by.

At 6:58 p.m., police responded to a caller who reported that a child was screaming and parents were yelling at a Brookside Drive home. Police reported hearing a TV and a family having dinner. Police said that it was just a loud family.

At 7:17 p.m., police responded to a security alarm activated in an Andover Street home. The resident said their dog accidentally set off the alarm.

At 9:04 p.m., a resident reported his or her 15-year-old daughter was missing. She was last seen at Wendy's parking lot in Tewksbury. Tewksbury Police were notified. Police said the girl left home following an argument with a parent and suspect she could have run away.

At 10:56 p.m., a man reported being the victim of a road rage incident. He told police that the driver of an SUV got out of his vehicle on Park Street and struck him.

Friday, April 8 - At 3:19 a.m., a female caller reported that her boyfriend had pulled a gun on her. The caller told police she was standing in the lobby of 800 Bullfinch Drive. No one was home inside the apartment when police arrived.

At 11:31 a.m., a resident reported that her neighbor yelled

at her in a threatening manner while walking her dog.

At 5:36 p.m., a resident reported that someone had been using his debit card fraudulently.

At 11:30 p.m., police responded to a 911 hang up call at an Andover home, from which a juvenile took off when police arrived. Police said the juvenile was wanted for domestic assault and battery.

Saturday, April 9 - At 1:52 a.m., police assisted Merrimack College police to apprehend a student on Fox Hill Road who dropped some beers and ran away after seeing the college police.

At 10:31 a.m., a resident called police to complain about the smell of fumes and the noise from a train that they said had been running for a long time near their Flemming Avenue address. An officer checked the train and reported that it was running and no one was attending any of the three engines.

At 1:04 p.m., a downtown area resident was issued a verbal warning for violating a town bylaw. Police said the resident was blowing debris into the street.

At 5:29 p.m., police assisted a 15-year-old male who had put his arm through glass. Police said no foul play had been involved and the juvenile was transported to the hospital.

At 7:19 p.m., the Housing Authority notified police of a sewer backup on Morton Street. Police reported the incident to the Water Department.

At 10:39 p.m., a resident reported that several cars with groups of kids were making a lot of noise on Haggetts Pond Drive and one motor vehicle had run over a lawn at the corner. Police said they found no cars or kids in the area. A resident who had a tire track on their lawn did not want to file a report.

At 10:59 p.m., a young male caller reported a drug deal was taking place behind Bruegger's Bagel Bakery in Elm Square. Police checked the area but found no one.

Sunday, April 10 - At 3:20

a.m., a Railroad Street resident reported a young male was passed out on the front lawn of the Andover Condominiums. The caller said he was breathing but would not wake up. Police dispatched an ambulance and the man was transported to a hospital.

At 9:10 a.m., a Wingate Nursing Home resident called 911 to report her clothes were missing. Police notified someone in charge at the front desk of the nursing home who said they would check on her.

At 4:16 p.m., a resident reported finding a spy camera in her attic, which she said she removed. The resident said there was a second camera still in her home and that she could hear people outside talking about where she had been and what she was doing. The next day, at 1:45 a.m., the resident reported locating another camera inside her home. Police went to the house and said they found no cameras.

At 5:56 p.m., a Balmoral Street resident reported that a friend who had been staying with him got into a dispute with a cab driver on Saturday night. The resident said the cab driver took his friend's phone and would not return it. Police said they were able to resolve the matter.

At 10:15 p.m., Lawrence police reported receiving a call about a man lying in the road on the corner of South Broadway and Mount Vernon streets. An ambulance was dispatched and upon its arrival, the man got up and drove away in a red pick-up truck. Paramedics said the man was intoxicated. Andover police checked the area but found no one.

Monday, April 11 - At 10:58 a.m., Sgt. Harry Collins reported that keep-right-of-island signs were down at Main and Chapel streets.

At 11:57 a.m., a Haverhill Street resident reported that someone had used her social security number.

Tuesday, April 12 - At 8:20 a.m., police reported large pot-holes in the area of Wildwood Road that need to be filled. Police

said they will contact the Department of Public Works.

At 10:37 a.m., a local business reported an incident of credit-card fraud.

At 10:56 a.m., a resident reported that the railroad gates were malfunctioning at Pearson Street. Police said the MBTA was fixing the problem.

At 7:32 p.m., a resident flagged down police to alert them of a man who appeared to be intoxicated behind a downtown restaurant. Police reported that the man was waiting for his wife to take him home.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Wednesday, April 6 - At 8:12 p.m., a Jenkins Road resident reported that a vehicle had struck and damaged her lightpost earlier in the day.

Thursday, April 7 - At 2:59 p.m., a Lawrence man reported his Toyota Camry was stolen from Brickstone Square. Police said the report was a mistake and the vehicle had been taken by a family member.

Friday, April 8 - At 10:27 a.m., a Minuteman Road resident reported a vehicle parked in Spring Hill Suites had three smashed windows. The owner of the vehicle told police the damage happened in Lawrence the night before.

Saturday, April 9 - At 5:39 p.m., a resident reported parking a car outside of Banknorth on Main Street and that the vehicle was not there when the resident returned. Police reported that the car was discovered in the parking lot of CVS and the resident had just forgotten where they parked.

Sunday, April 10 - At 12:41 a.m., a deer was reported dead in the roadway on South Main Street.

Tuesday, April 12 - At 6:45 p.m., a resident reported that his Range Rover was struck while it was parked on Dascomb Road.

VANDALISM

Sunday, April 10 - At 12:52 p.m., a Linwood Street resident reported that her house had been egged on Saturday night.

Monday, April 11 - At 8:12 a.m., an officer reported vandalism had been done to the roof of the Doherty School.

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Business

BRIEFS

Urbelis: Speaker at workshops

At the recent annual meeting of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Town Counsel and Andover resident Thomas Urbelis was a speaker at two workshops.



Town Counsel
Thomas
Urbelis

The first workshop was titled "Affordable Housing and Comprehensive Permits (General Laws Chapter 40B)." The chairman of the Commonwealth's Housing Appeals Committee discussed comprehensive permits from the perspective of the Housing Appeals Committee and Urbelis discussed comprehensive permits from the perspective of a municipality.

The second workshop was titled "How to Win Appeals: Successful Defense of the Wetlands Act and Bylaw Decisions." Urbelis and another attorney discussed appeals of decisions issued under the state wetlands law and municipal wetlands bylaws.

Merrill Lynch seminars on how to prepare for retirement

Merrill Lynch is hosting a series of free seminars – including two in Andover – on investing for retirement. Using real life scenarios, Jeffrey A. Ferrante, first vice president of Merrill Lynch in Andover, will explore goal assessment, risk tolerance and asset allocation to demonstrate how a person can create an efficient and balanced portfolio for retirement, according to a release. Seminars will be Tuesday, April 19; Wednesday, April 20; Tuesday, April 26; and Wednesday, May 3, all at 6:30 p.m. The seminars will be at the Lanam Club on April 19 and April 26, and at Danversport Yacht Club on April 20 and April 26.

To make reservations or for more information, call Rebecca Gorelick toll free at 800-926-0552.

The seminars will cover portfolio management strategies; maximizing the return potential for a given risk; exploring tax-advantaged strategies to preserve wealth; determining the right asset allocation mix for a specific situation; and maintaining a comfortable lifestyle through retirement while still passing on assets to heirs.

Cafeteria union leaders picked

Nearly 40 cafeteria workers in the Andover School District recently elected new chapter officers for their labor union. The employees are members of the Service Employees International Union Local 888, a public sector and education union based out of Charlestown. The Andover union members elected Lynne Gorrie as chapter president, Terri Feole as chapter co-President and head of the Grievance Committee, and Berniece Bligh as chapter vice president. The new slate of officers was formally sworn in by Local 888 President Susana Segat.

"As new officers, we look forward to representing our fellow cafeteria employees and negotiating our new contract in the next year," reported Gorrie.

"All of these leaders should be commended for the great service they provide to the children and families of Andover day in and day out," said Segat. "It's important that the contributions the school employees make to the public be recognized."

Lowell Hospital gets certificate

The Cancer Center at Lowell General Hospital has become the only cancer care center in Greater Lowell, and one of seven in the state, to be awarded a certificate of accreditation by the American College of Radiology.

The ACR accreditation comes on the heels of a perfect score awarded to The Cancer Center from the American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer, which renewed approval of our Community Cancer Program.

The American College of Radiology is a national organization that awards accreditation to facilities for their achievement of high practice standards.

Real estate honor

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices in Andover and North Andover reported that they were celebrating the recent announcement that its parent Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corp. has earned the ranking for "Highest Overall Satisfaction For Repeat Home Buyers Among National Full Service Real Estate Firms" from J.D. Power and Associates.

Correction on Sa•vour hours

Due to a reporter's error, last week's business story incorrectly listed the hours for Sa•vour Kitchen, a new eatery at 63 Park St. The business is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, with a Sunday brunch.

ENTER STAGE LEFT

Husband-wife team offer musical theater classes for kids on Lupine

By Judy Wakefield

He's got the technical theater production skills. She's got the choreography moves. Now, they are joining forces to offer a "fun and funky" summer theater project called Stage Space for kids ages 5 to 14.

He is Scott Worthley, the manager and technical director at the Collins Center in Andover. Worthley is teaming up with his wife, Cindy Morgan, a dance teacher in town who owns the Dance Infusion studio on Lupine Road.

Worthley said when a neighboring yoga business on Lupine Road moved out, he and his wife started thinking about taking over the space and launching a contemporary twist on theater geared for kids. They hope it will catch on and eventually lead to after-school theater productions in the fall.

"There's a need for it," said Worthley, whose job definitely keeps him in tune with the local theater scene for kids. "When that space became open I just thought there was a great opportunity for us."

As the parents of 18-month-old quadruplets – all boys – the Tewksbury couple is well acquainted with a busy kid scene at home, as well as in their careers. They say they are eager for their new business venture.

Worthley, who has been at the Collins Center since 1990 and has been working there full-time since 2000, said his wife's choreographic skills fit today's popular hip-hop dance market and many of those kids love to perform in front of an audience. Stage Space gives them the chance to do that.

In addition, Worthley said he

will teach kids about scene design and technical production and instruction.

"Cindy and I are both involved in it and we really enjoy it," he said.

Also on board are local singing coach Sandra Bedrosian and actor Keiko Yoshida, who starred in the popular PBS show, Zoom.

Worthley said the four of them

are currently working together on the summer programs.

"It's all about giving kids in the Merrimack Valley a chance to experience theater in a way they might not currently get," Worthley said.

Participants can expect a "contemporary twist on older stories" as kids will sing and dance to traditional nursery rhymes, Worthley

said.

"And, we'll do some funky (dance) steps to fairy tales," he said.

He's hopeful that Stage Space kids will perform a musical, but the title is undecided.

Summer classes are set to start July 11. For more information, prices and registration call Dance Infusion at 978-475-7868.

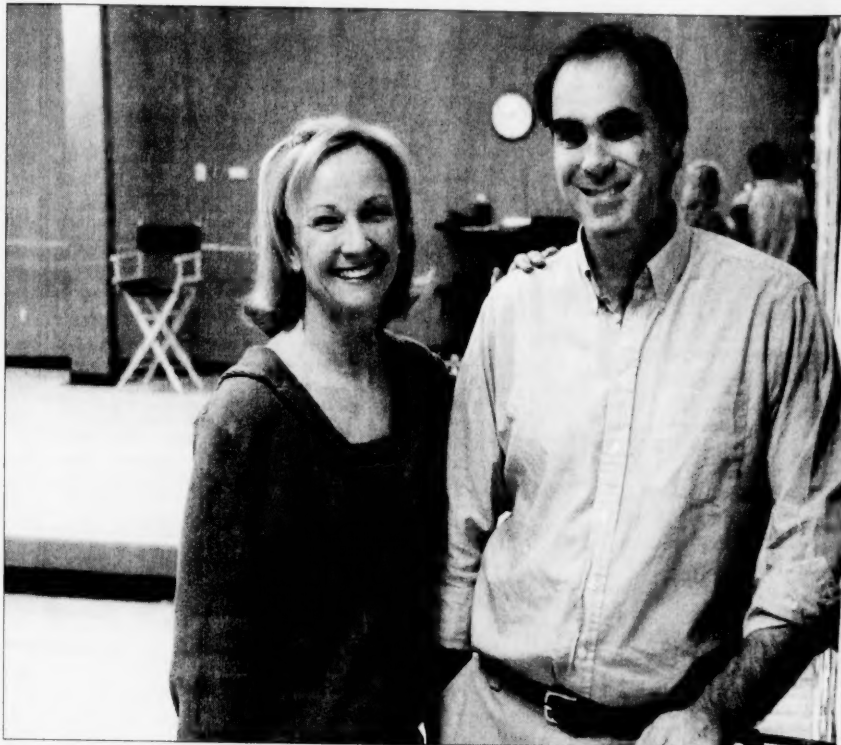


PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Dance instructor Cindy Morgan and Collins Center manager Scott Worthley, her husband, are hoping their idea for musical theater will lead to fall productions.

MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER'S UPCOMING EVENTS

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce's Human Resource Association presents "Resolving Performance Challenges" next Thursday, April 21 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Guest-House Inn & Suites, 159A Pelham St., Methuen.

The cost, which includes breakfast, is \$20 for MVHRA members, \$25 for MV Chamber members and \$45 for others.

The Chamber says people will learn to:

- Evaluate a performance problem
- Conduct a corrective discussion
- Use progressive discipline if performance continues to decline
- Document employee performance
- Determine appropriate consequences

Networking mixer

The MV Chamber, together with Minco and the Stevens Estate will present "A Patriot's Business Networking Mixer" on Tuesday April 19 at the Stevens Estate, 723 Osgood St., North

Andover, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The cost for members is \$10, or \$15 for two people.

Summer Golf auction

MVCC Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf-Auction Summer Spectacular will be July 18.

The 7:30 a.m. "Morning Flight" includes: continental breakfast, lunch, dinner with carving station, cart, golf, pool, tennis and free sport gift.

The 1 p.m. "Afternoon Flight" includes: lunch, dinner with carving station, cart, golf, pool, tennis and free sport gift.

The Chamber will be mailing golf registrations this month. Auction-donated items will be appreciated, it says.

Information

For more information about any Chamber event, call 978-686-0900 or visit its Web site, www.merrimackvalleychamber.com

UMass Boston honors Elrick for health-care leadership

The University of Massachusetts Boston will present Andover resident Dr. Jean R. Elrick with the Chancellor's Exemplary Leadership Award at the April 20 "Building One Community" gala to benefit student scholarships.

Elrick is the senior vice president of administration at Massachusetts General Hospital and assistant clinical professor of anesthesia and critical care at Harvard Medical School, where she received her medical degree. Elrick continues her clinical practice at MGH. She is a former vice president of Partners Health-Care System Inc. She previously served MGH as the director of the decision support unit and associate director of the cardiac surgical intensive care unit. Elrick recently agreed to join the advisory board of UMass Boston's College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

"Dr. Elrick had distinguished UMass Boston ever since her undergraduate years, which she concluded by receiving the John F. Kennedy Award as the outstanding student of her graduating class," said UMass Boston Chancellor J. Keith Motley. "She has not only cared for individuals and families, but she has inspired women to achieve leadership roles in medicine and health care."

New Citizens Bank in Andover names manager

Assistant Vice President Michael Torrielli is the branch manager of the new Citizens Bank in Andover. Torrielli has been with Citizens Bank for more than seven years, most recently as manager of Citizens' Main Street branch in Waltham.

In Andover, he joins Assistant Branch Manager James McCurdy, who comes from Citizens' Beverly branch, and Teller Manager Alexandra Garcia-Trias, who also comes from Citizens' Waltham branch.

Citizens Bank of Massachusetts announced last month that it had opened its first branch in Andover. The so-called N.I.C.E. branch, which stands for New In-Branch Citizens Experience, is located at 209 North Main St. in Shawsheen Plaza.

"Citizens is excited to open our first branch in

Andover as we continue to look for ways to make our customers' banking experiences even better," said Robert E. Smyth, president and CEO of Citizens Bank of Massachusetts. "The new-style Andover branch is designed to visually communicate Citizens' commitment to our communities and to customer service."

Among the branch's features are a "hello" desk staffed with a Citizens greeter to service customers' non-cash transactions and 20-inch screens that broadcast Citizens' special offers.

The hours of the Andover branch are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays through Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

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Terri Kelley

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Save this date: Sunday, May 15, 2005

Photo Journalist John Holod

OBITUARIES

Gordon L. McAdams

Retired computer specialist; was active at Christ Church



Gordon L. McAdams

Gordon L. McAdams, 76, of Andover, died Wednesday, April 6, at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington. Mr. McAdams was born in Houston, Tex., and raised in West Newton. He was in the US Army and, during the Korean Conflict era, rose to the rank of lieutenant. Mr. McAdams was the first Army Champion in United States Track and Field.

He also attended Officer Candidate School and received the American Spirit Honor Medal. He graduated from Colgate University where he was the captain of the track team.

Mr. McAdams moved to Andover in 1962 when he took a job with Raytheon. He worked in the computer industry his whole career and retired from Digital Equipment Corp.

He was a very active member of the Christ Church in Andover and was also proud to be a former senior warden at the church.

Members of his family include his wife, Jayne F. (Angell) McAdams of Andover; son, Gordon L. McAdams Jr. of Lynn; daughter, Jean M. Serrano and her husband Jorge of Wilmington; two grandchildren; and two brothers, Alan McAdams of Ithaca, N.Y. and Kenneth McAdams of Greenwich, Conn.

Arrangements were by Dewhurst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to Christ Church, 25 Central St., Andover, 01810.

Frederick R. Vieweg

Was tree warden for the town of Methuen

Frederick R. Vieweg, 80, husband of Eva M. (DeRoche) Vieweg, died Wednesday, April 6, in Port Saint Lucie, Fla., after

an extended illness.

He was a resident of Andover, as well as Port St. Lucie.

He was born in Lawrence and attended school in Methuen, where he lived most of his life.

He was a World War II Army veteran, having served with the 101st Airborne Division as a paratrooper. He was present during the invasion of Normandy.

Prior to his retirement, he was employed as the tree warden for the town of Methuen.

Mr. Vieweg was a communicant of Saint Monica's Church in Methuen, and a member of Methuen Council 4027 Knights of Columbus.

In addition to his wife of 56 years, members of his family include one son, Scott F. Vieweg of Salem, N.H.; daughter and son-in-law, Gail and Andrew Fortin of West Newbury and Nantucket; one granddaughter; three brothers, William Vieweg of Byfield, Edward Vieweg of Haverhill, and Kenneth Vieweg of Methuen; two sisters, Jackie Dudley of Northfield, N.H., and Shirley Dowd of Methuen; and a sister-in-law, Ann D. Thomas, of Andover and Port St. Lucie, with whom he and Mrs. Vieweg lived while in Andover.

He also leaves many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Polard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen.

Catherine Martin

Known for storytelling, wit and sense of humor

Catherine Martin, 92, of Andover, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 12, at the Prescott House Nursing Home in North Andover.



Catherine Martin

She was born in New York and was the widow of William Martin. The Martins raised their family in Massapequa, N.Y. and later lived in Springfield, Vt., Stuart, Fla., and Silver Springs, Md.

Mrs. Martin enjoyed knitting, crocheting, and playing cards with friends. She was also an

DEATHS

Catherine Martin, 92
Gordon L. McAdams, 76
Andrea Wright Goodwin, 52
Frederick R. Vieweg, 80

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

WRIGHT GOODWIN — Andrea L. Wright Goodwin, 52, of Methuen, died Monday, April 4 at Caritas Holy Family Hospital.

She was a secretary at the Andover-North Andover YMCA in Andover.

avid reader.

In her later years, she spent much of her time with her family, sharing memories of her childhood and enjoying her beloved great-grandchildren.

Family members said she will be remembered as a wonderful storyteller with a sharp wit and keen sense of humor.

Members of her family include her son, William Martin, and his wife Laly of Andover;

daughter, Ann and her husband, Joseph Guerrero of Andover with whom she lived; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and sisters, Loretta Ahern of West Yarmouth and Josephine Weber of Queens, N.Y.

There are no calling hours. A funeral Mass will be said at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 16 at St. Robert of Bellarmine Church, 198 Haggetts Pond

Road, West Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to Elder Services, 360 Merrimack St., Bldg. 5, Lawrence, MA 01843; or to Home Health Visiting Nurse Association, 360 Merrimack St., Bldg. 9, Lawrence, MA 01843.

Arrangements are under the direction of Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

50 Years Ago — 1955

The Gold Sat mothers, Greater Lawrence chapter, honored Mrs. Margaret Muller of High Plain Road at a farewell party in recognition of her trip to Hawaii.

Tonight at 8, in the West Church vestry, the Women's Evening circle will meet. Miss Edna Cutter will present a "House Plant Forum."

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Goodman have returned to their home on Theodore Avenue after spending several days in New York City.

The Cub Scout Committee will meet this Friday at 8 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson. Mrs. Andrew Innes and Mrs. Henry Holt are in charge of the program for the month of May.

Mrs. Thomas Sutton of Lovejoy Road is attending a school advisory cafeteria committee meeting being held in Lexington today.

An annual two-piano recital by two members of the Abbot Academy music department will take place Sunday evening at 7:30 in Davis Hall. The public has been invited. Plans are being completed for the bridge and tea April 26 at 2 p.m. in Davis Hall.

The Junior High Pilgrim fellowship of the West Church will sponsor a paper drive April 21. Please save your old papers for them and the truck will come to collect them on that date.

Election of officers will highlight the annual meeting of the Andover Historical Society April 22. Librarian Mrs. Theodore Dodge will present a talk "A Day at the Andover Historical Society."

Miss Marjorie Stewart of High Plain Road spent the weekend with friends in Westminster.

25 Years Ago — 1980

The Conservation Commission's proposed wetlands protection bylaw, Warrant Article 47, drew fire from angry builders and homeowners at a public hearing. The purpose of the bylaw is to keep the structure of the laws we already have, which have been working really well.

Members of town sports leagues are hoping they'll soon hear more numerous cries of "Play ball!" — and that's not just because baseball is back. It's because of Article 26. Youth

sports officials say this article will increase both the number and quality of town fields.

There's something for just about everyone in the upcoming Town Meeting. The other major money item — an \$11.5 million bond issue for the school building program — should come up on Thursday.

Two Andover residents have been named winners of four-year corporate-sponsored National Merit Scholarships: Kathleen F. Connor of Phillips Academy; and Sean D. Smith of Andover High.

A second Rabies Clinic, sponsored by the Andover Board of Health, will be held Saturday morning from 8 to noon. The fee for vaccination is \$4. By state law, all dogs six months or older must be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. Cats must also be vaccinated at this age.

Back by popular demand is the Andover High School choir's "Cabaret!" An evening that has proved popular for young and old alike will be held tomorrow and Saturday. Lively masters of ceremonies will introduce a number of acts — including soloists, dramatic skits, comedy, the barbershop Quartet, Madrigal Singers, A Capella Choir, and the Chantrelles.

The School Committee on Tuesday night approved "release time" for Andover High teachers who are preparing for the high school accreditation team that will be investigating in the fall.

The Bancroft School PTO will sponsor a huge garage sale this Saturday, April 12, from 10 to 2 in the school auditorium. Items available include children's clothing, toys, books, baked goods, and plant cuttings. There will be a separate table at which children can decorate their own cupcakes.

Under the auspices of the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority, Andover WEBUS service was started in December. This is for Andover residents who have a physical or mental handicap, and for persons over 60 who find it difficult to use — or don't have access to — regular MVRTA bus service.

The fifth annual Andover Crafts in the Park has been set for Saturday May 10 — the day before Mother's Day — in Central Park. Some 120 craftsmen from four states will be displaying and selling their wares.

10 Years Ago — 1995

On Friday, April 7, the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club held an auction featuring more than 100 items including vacations, sports tickets, and dinners.

The Merrimack Valley Pirates Swim team will offer a

three-day stroke and turn clinic for young people 6-18 years old interested in being on a swim team. This opportunity to attempt competitive swimming will be held at the Greater Lawrence Technical School.

Few schools in Massachusetts can match the success of Andover High in varsity baseball the past five years: back-to-back state titles in 1991 and 1992; three Eastern Mass Division 1 North championships; four consecutive Merrimack Valley Conference Large school titles; four 20-win seasons; and a blistering overall record of 106 wins, 14 losses for an .883 winning percentage.

The 1995 Andover High boys varsity volleyball team will have to be almost perfect, and win a state championship to improve upon last year's success. "We have the potential to be better," said Golden Warriors seventh-year coach George Sullivan.

Project Teamwork will hold a follow-up discussion on "Prejudice in Andover" Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Andover High School. Project Teamwork's goals are to educate and promote tolerance through the school and community.

Residents at Town Meeting Monday and Tuesday expanded Andover's budget to nearly \$66 million, but didn't give land to a group willing to pay for a youth complex at Recreation Park. Voters also turned down giving land to a group willing to pay to expand the Senior Center.

The Andover Commission on Disability will hold a meeting Wednesday, April 19 at Town Offices from 6 to 8 p.m. Agenda items include membership, awareness and bylaws. The ACOD seeks to address issues concerning Andover and its citizens with disabilities.

The Andover Service Center will be open Tuesday, April 18 to accept federal and Massachusetts state tax returns.

Contractors putting in the new driveway at Andover High School will probably start blasting ledge from in front of the school as early as next Wednesday, April 19. The blasting will be done each weekday morning from 6 to 7 a.m. and will likely disrupt traffic as well as the sleep of neighbors.

Sen. John Kerry spoke at Phillips Academy on April 9 about how Congress works.

Sen. Kerry will address the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce at its annual dinner on Friday, April 18, at the Andover Marriott. The event will include the announcement of the chamber's new board of directors.

On Tuesday afternoon, more than 100 elementary and middle school students exercised their

OBITUARIES

The *Townsmen* will publish obituaries of Andover residents without charge.

The paper also will publish without charge a short announcement of those people who died and did not live here, but are related to someone who lives in Andover. This listing will include the name of the deceased, where he or she lived, when he or she died, and names of relatives in Andover.

Those who wish to have a complete obituary published about a person who did not live in Andover can pay for a death notice. The cost of a death notice depends on the length of the notice.

Questions? Call Jack Grady or Neil Fater at 978-475-7000.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support Groups

ADD/ADHD support group, meets third Thursday of every month. Belleville Church, 300 High St., Newburyport; Lisa Figliola 978-948-7310.

AIDS Action of Andover Mothers Group, for mothers and other family members of people who are HIV positive or have AIDS, twice monthly; 978-470-2626.

Alcoholism — Adult children of alcoholics discussion meeting, Sunday, 10-11:30 a.m., Emerson Hospital Health Center, Route 110, Westford; 978-251-3329 or 978-448-5002.

Alcoholism — Alateen, ages 12 and older, for teenagers affected by someone else's drinking, 7-8 p.m., every Wednesday, downstairs,

Christ Church, 29 Central St., Andover; Dottie 978-851-7655.

Alcoholism — Al-Anon, for adults, meets every Wednesday, 8-9:30 p.m., first floor, Christ Church, 29 Central St.; 978-475-0529.

Alcoholism — Al-Anon literature study group, Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, St. Anne's Church, King Street, Littleton; 978-256-9391 or 978-448-5002.

Alcoholism — Al-Anon meeting, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., St. William's Church basement, Main Street (Route 38), Tewksbury; Dottie 978-851-7655.

Alcoholism — Pre-Alateen, meetings for ages 6-12, Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Pines of Tewksbury, 2580 Main St., Tewksbury; Dottie 978-851-7655.

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Education

LOCAL SCHOLARS

Doherty Middle School will hold its Grades 6 & 7 Scholar Night tonight, Thursday, April 14, beginning at 7 in the school auditorium.

□□□

Seth Davidovits, a junior at Andover High School, tied for second place in the Northeastern Section of the Avery Ashdown Chemistry Examination held April 2 at Simmons College.

His score entitles him to compete for a spot on the US Chemistry Olympiad Team, sponsored by the American Chemical Society.

□□□

Bryan McNiff, of 27 Haggetts Pond Road, has been selected to participate in the Junior National Student Leadership Conference, a leadership development program for outstanding middle-school students. While attending the JNSLC, McNiff will have the opportunity to study, experience, and develop the skills and traits that define and identify a leader.

This year, approximately 1,500 gifted middle-school students from across the US and from 45 countries around the world will find themselves immersed in a learning environment unlike any they have ever experienced, according to a press release from the program. These young leaders return to their schools with increased potential and newly developed abilities that enable them to make a positive difference in their communities.

During the conference, students attend special workshops and classes where they study distinctions of leadership. Nationally known guest speakers bring current national and international issues to life.

The JNSLC offers leadership conferences on Government in Action, Diplomacy and the World, Life Sciences, and Discovering Leadership.

RSVP soon for Tech School 'Mega Reunion'

The Greater Lawrence Technical School will hold a "Mega Reunion" of classes 1975 through 1980 on Saturday, May 7 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Knights of Columbus - Gaythorne Hall, 462 Broadway, Methuen.

The cost is \$30 per person, which includes a full dinner buffet.

Dress is casual, and the theme of the event is "Stuck in the '70s!"

The ticket deadline is Monday, April 25.

RSVP to Diane Kolifrath at 603-669-1396; or Manny Spampinato at 978-686-6956.



This dragon could go hungry if clubs at Andover High have no funding in the fall. Asian American Culture Club members Jon Chang, Seth Putnam, Brendon Elvidge and Eric Hinds took turns dancing inside this dragon costume as students entered Andover High at the start of culture week last spring. The budgeted costs for the school's 40 clubs at AHS is \$43,000.

Fizzled fundraiser fallout

AHS principal supports clubs, but has no way to pay for them

By Judy Wakefield

GRANT MONEY PAYS FOR and therefore will save some clubs at Andover High School next year, including the National Honor Society and the Students Against Destructive Decisions chapter.

But parents fear most clubs will go the way of a bad poker hand because of the recent Casino Night fundraising fiasco.

While the event was a success last year and raised about \$17,000, fewer than 100 tickets were sold for the April 1 event this year, so it was cancelled.

Members of the school's parents advisory group say most clubs will fold as a result, unless parents are willing to pay yet another fee, or money is restored in the high school budget.

Andover High Principal Peter Anderson seemed less pessimistic, saying while there was "no mechanism in place at this time" to fund his \$43,000 budget for the school's 40 clubs, he is working on the issue.

He wants the clubs to survive, as hundreds of kids take part in them.

"Our PAC has said they can no longer raise the money for clubs that they have raised in the past. They did not match their fundraising success of the past," he said. "At this point, I don't have any great ideas."

About \$10,000 in grant

money helps the club budget. That money goes to the school through the townwide health department and pays for health- and life-skill types of clubs, including SADD and the National Honor Society, Anderson said.

PAC has helped to raise money for the remaining club budget and came up with about \$27,000 this school year, Anderson said. But the account has dried up and there will be no PAC club contributions in September.

PAC co-president Ellen Travers said her group received about 15 e-mails from parents saying they were sorry the Casino Night fundraiser was a bust.

"But it's sensory overload. People are tapped out, unemployed, or whatever," Travers said. "There is a limit to what they will spend."

Two other Casino Night fund-raising events are in the works and there are no plans to cancel them.

Sanborn School will host one next month, while the Friends of Andover Football are scheduling one at the end of this month.

Debbie Begos of the Sanborn PAC said she was certainly aware of what happened at the high school, but ticket are selling briskly for the Sanborn event on Friday, May 6 at Old Town Hall.

"There's not a lot of crossover, as most of our kids are young and they don't have high school siblings," she said. "And elementary schools typically get more (parent) participation."

Dan Harrington, who is organizing The Friends Casino Night fundraiser, for money to restore the entrance to Lovely Field at Andover High, did not return a telephone call from the *Townsmen*.

Travers certainly wishes those groups well, but cautioned that the "tapped out" mood among parents in town is very prevalent.

So is the talk of after-school clubs being "nice, but not necessary," she said.

"Clubs are the social outlets for many kids," said Travers, noting that hundreds of kids at the high school drop into an after-school club at some point during the school year.

"If you're looking to wow a college admissions officer, club leadership is great to have on an application," she said.

She does not want schools to charge parents for clubs, but unless the school budget provides some money, there will be a charge, she said.

Andover High will join the town's three middle schools, which currently charge a \$75 per year club fee.

BOOK REVIEW

So You Want to Be a Wizard

BY DIANE DUANE

Reviewed by John Chartier and James Caron

This week, 15-year-old Andover residents John and James review a book for those who enjoy novels about fantasy and coming-of-age tales.

IN TODAY'S WORLD, FANTASY AND MAGIC are two subjects that both the entertainment and literary industries love to use. Between the Harry Potter series (both books and movies) and countless books of the fantasy genre released each year, fantasy is certainly one of the most prominent niches of the book world. Because of this, it's no surprise the daydream of almost all children is to have magic powers. They believe life would be so much simpler if they had the aid of these powers. In *So You Want to Be a Wizard* by Diane Duane, the main character, Nita, finds out that life isn't as simple as one thinks it would be.

Nita's life is a very hard one. She is teased non-stop by bullies at school, and all she is looking for is an escape from this torment. Nita finds refuge in her local library, where she is able to lose herself in the lives of those characters whose lives are far less complicated than her life.

One evening, after being chased down by these predators, Nita discovers a book in the library that she has never seen before - a book that has the potential to change her life forever. The book is a how-to manual for being a wizard, and before Nita knows it, she has jumped head-first into a world she might not be ready for. Perhaps most ironic, she's about to find out with the help of her friend Kit, that life may be harder because of her powers than before!

So You Want to Be a Wizard by Diane Duane is a perfect example of how the fantasy category can be an exciting and riveting genre. Not only is this novel an intricate web of description, but it is also an incredible coming-of-age story.

It is for this reason that *So You Want to Be a Wizard* is so appealing to so many different people.

We recommend this novel for people who not only like fantasy, but also to those who enjoy realistic young adult fiction and might like to try something new. In terms of age, we recommend this story for readers ages 11 and up. Duane has a very sophisticated writing style that is, at times, difficult to grasp.

We give *So You Want to Be a Wizard* by Diane Duane a nine out of 10. This is a story that will be enjoyed by anyone who picks it up. If the reader enjoys this novel, there are several sequels that are also very notable, including *High Wizardry* and *Deep Wizardry*.

So head on down to your local bookstore today and pick up your very own copy of *So You Want to Be a Wizard* by Diane Duane today! While you are there, keep an eye out for any strange looking volumes that you haven't seen before. You never know what you might find a manual for!



SCHOOL TALK

The next **Bancroft School Improvement Council Meeting** will be held Wednesday, April 27 from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. in the faculty lounge.

□□□

Residents who have been thinking about attending **Northern Essex Community College** but are unsure about a course of study are invited to attend a free, one-hour workshop at the Haverhill campus tomorrow, Friday, April 15 starting at 10 a.m.

Sponsored by the college's Career Development Center, the "Choices" workshop was designed to help potential students recognize possible career paths stemming from their personalities and interests, then identify the corresponding NECC program.

Northern Essex offers more than 70 associate degree and certificate programs in the areas of business, human services, computers, criminal justice, deaf studies, early childhood and elementary education, electronic technology, engineering science, health professions, human services, liberal arts, and many others.

Classes are offered days, evenings or weekends as well as online.

Since materials are handed out, reservations for this workshop are required. To register or for more information, call the NECC Career Development Center at 978-556-3722.



DR. BRIAN S. MILLET

Dr. William J. Scannell and the staff of **VALLEY DENTAL CARE** are pleased to welcome Dr. Millet to our dental practice. Dr. Millet is a native of Boston and now resides with his wife in Stoneham. He is a graduate of Boston College and went on to graduate Summa Cum Laude from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 2001. Dr. Millet brings with him a good sense of humor, exceptional dental skills and patience with those fearful of dental care.



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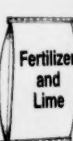
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LOCAL SCHOLARS

Doherty students named to second-term honor roll

Doherty Middle School has named the following students to the honor roll for the second term:

Grade 8

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Karim Addetia
Jennifer Angell
Hannah Bardo
Rebecca Bendetson
Julia Blanter
Lauren Blaxter
Emily Blech
Nicole Cahill
Laura Cody
Caroline Colombo
Abigail Cook
Molly Corcoran
Aline Dargie
Meagan Deyermund
John Diodati
Janelle Driscoll
Alexandru Dumitrescu
Sean Ehlbeck
Jessica Frey
Hope Fried
Ryan Furlong
Emma Gendlerman
Jonathan Graham
John Haak
Gary Hinds
Shelby Horn
Alexandra Hsu
Paul Irish
Carl Jackson
Heather Jimenez
Jennifer Johnson
Rebecca Johnson
Michael Kaluzny
Ishan Kapoor
Rudhni Karnik
Micala Kempster
David Keohane
Melissa Knapp
Jennifer Koffman
Kelly Kropiwnicki
Michelle Laracy
Regina Larose

Theodore Lederfine-Paskal
Auden Lincoln-Vogel
Andrew Lyman
Elizabeth Malone
Brian Mason
Kerry McCarthy
Leah McKnight
Mary McQuillen
Jessica Morrow
Victoria Mueck
Laura Murray
Victoria Norris
Elijah Petter
Joshua Petter
Keyara Pierre-Louis
Bowen Qiu
Hilary Rich
Molly Rodin
Brian Russell
Rachel Rutfield
Elizabeth Scoble
Sophia Shimer
Gabriel Shipon
Lucy Silverman
Sanjay Singh
Cameron Smith
Andrew Speen
Molly Stolberg
Christopher Sullivan
Joshua Torres
William Wilkin
Ian Wollman
Andi Zhou

HONORS

Emily Adams
Amy Caron
Jacquelyn Collins
Christopher Crane
Brendan Crawford
Amanda D'Avolio
Leo Daley
Kevin Doyle
Matthew Eriksen
Hannah Fitzpatrick
George Flanagan
Catherine Gross
Christine Harvey
Robert Hodge
Thomas Huntley
Jennifer Igoo

Jonah Kellman
Eve Kenneally
Margaret King
Rebecca Lindmark
Christopher Lippi
Brendan McCarron
Jake McCoy
Maria McSheehy
Matthew Newman
Salvatore Percival
Breanna Perrone
Nicholas Petrillo
Matthew Quartararo
Nicole Saia
Colleen Shannon
Samantha Skistimas
Alexandra Strock
Nicholas Sylvester
John Tassinari
Maxwell Tonks
Rachael Trotta
Kayla Walsh
Eric Walther-Grant
Erin Woodbury

Grade 7

HIGH HONORS

Noah Besen
James Brenner
Matthew Byrne
Julia Caffrey
Christopher Chu
Kaelan Crawford
David Daniels
Mary Forster
Natalie Gibson
Elizabeth Gilbert
Alexandra Hall
Gregory Hanafin
Joshua Holzman
Alycia Howell
Thomas Hubschman
Paul Hunter
Caroline Kaufman
Katie Kucharski
Noah Kurinsky
Ceia Lewis
Joseph Liotta
Alyson Long
Andrew Mack

Colleen Maher
Catherine McLaughlin
Martin Murphy
Neil Murphy
Rie Nawata
Caroline O'Sullivan
Andrew Pallotta
Zachary Pantely
John Perrone
Catherine Rayner
Weston Rogers
Adam Rosenzweig
Brittany Samuels
Daniel Scherwatzky
Haley Scott
Julia Shapiro
Michael Shen
Vanessa Singleton
Charles Smith
Victoria Spagnuolo
Eric Struhl
Diane Sun
Katherine Svec
Colin Trepicchio
John Turiano
Molly Van Doren
Laura Van Drie
Katherine Voorhees
Sierra Zwerling

HONORS

Kirsten Arvidson
Shayna Baglio
Michael Bernieri
Camille Black
Tyler Blake
Tyler Bond
Nicholas Booth
Anthony Broccoli
Hillary Brownson
Olivia Caradonio
Stephen Carey
Cabrea Casey
Courtney Casper
Joseph Chartier
Matthew Cohen
Robert Collins
Daniel Colombo
Sheila Cremin
Nicholas Curtin
Katherine D'Innocenzo

Brianne Deyermund
Joseph Downes-Berry
Jane Floyd
Alyson Formichella
Thomas Fuerst
Jennifer Garvin
Benjamin Gikow
Nicole Giroux
Samuel Hatch
Nathan Israel
Amanda Jamieson
Haley Jamieson
Alexander Kafantis
John Keenan
Katherine Knowles
Joseph Kuta
Danielle Lauretano
Elizabeth Le Cain
Sandra Lewis
Austin Marocco
Brian Martin
Allison McCurdy
Eric McKnight
Derek Monson
Paige Murray
Kylie Nagy
Madhumita Narayan
Ali Nickpour
Maggie O'Reilly
Aisling O'Toole
Paige Oldaker
Devi Patel
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John Ponti
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Kevin Russell
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Nicolas Serna
Rachel Shaw
Natalie Sousa
Molly Trerotola
Mark Vetere
Rebecca Vogler
Derek Wakefield
Scott Waller
Garrison Wilson
Cameron Wolf
John Wurts
Christine Zhou

Grade 6

HIGH HONORS

Amin Addetia
Alexandra Allocca
Timothy Angell
Madeline Baldwin
Ryan Beaumont
Emily Belluche
Kyle Berthiaume
Victoria Briggs
Kevin Byrne
Adam Carrington
Margaret Carter
Hannah Chiodo
Brianne Conlon
Benjamin Cook
John Cusick
Hannah Daley
Conor Davidson
Madeline Dillman
Alexandra Dodge
Elizabeth Doherty
Matthew Dorros
Rebecca Dunlavey
Sydney Eberth
Elisabeth Ekman
Kaitlin Fanikos
Demetria Fantauzzi
Conor Flanagan
Sean Furlong
Rose Ganley
Drew Gath
Samuel Gilboard
Elizabeth Goslin
Michael Goslin
Laura Hamilton
Nicole Hardgrove
Christopher Irish
Aazim Jafarey
Olivier Jin
Rory Johnson
Brian Knapp
Brandon Lam
Lauren Lamagna
Andrea Laquidara
Melissa Laracy
Alex Linnemann
Timothy Lyman
Sarah Mahan
Rohan Malhotra
Casey McQuillen

Crosby Nicholson
William Ossoff
Monica Patterson
Zoe Payne-Taylor
Heather Pekarovich
Christopher Penta
Alison Pouliot
Haritha Pula
Christopher Quartararo
Melissa Ragonese
Jacob Roberts
David Rungren
Anna Scapicchio
Cameron Schuh
Alexander Schwartz
Emily Scoble
Thomas Shannon
Aram Shrestinian
Madison Skwierczynski
Jessica Torres
Dana Trismen
Madeleine Tucker
Simon Voorhees
Danielle Walsh
Kellie Walsh
Tyler Webster
Zachary Weiss
Brian Wilson
Kendall Wipff
Elaine Wu
Wentai Xiao
Allan Yau
Alexander Yeo
Julie Zavri

HONORS

Chelsea Angelosanto
Lyle Baker
John Barbaro
Matthew Barker
Matthew Barnes
Ryan Beirne
Adam Blech
Rae Bronenkant
Paul Burton
Christopher Byrne
Van Caraviello
Julia Centofanti
Elliot Cooper
Jesse-Paul Crane
Stephen Dargie

Bennett Deady
Jay Dolan
Connor Dunbar
Sara Famiglietti
Evan Golden
James Gustus
Kyle Hagan
Hannah Hannum
Alexandra Hung
Daniel Hysczak
Amanda Johnson
Graeme Johnson
Nicole Johnson
John Kou
Christopher Kucharski
Kendra Kumph
Andrew Ladd
Margaret Lederfine-Paskal
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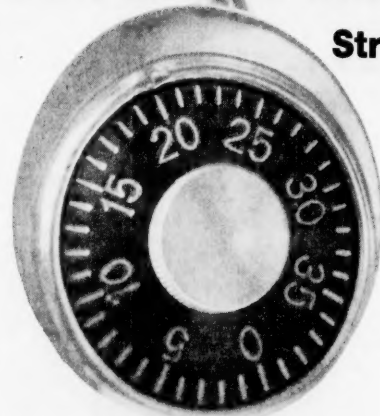
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LOCAL SCHOLARS

Wood Hill students achieve honor roll for 2nd-term

Wood Hill Middle School has named the following students to the honor roll for the second term:

Grade 6

HIGH HONORS
Zachary Allen
Bridget Aumais
Srijohn Bhunia
Sarah Brown
Meghan Burke
Brianna Byers
Catherine Carney
Elizabeth Carroll
Ryan Chan
Connor Clancy
Arthur Dalton
John Gaffney
Gabrielle Galat
Kurt Geffken
Arielle Gillette
Dina Hagigeorgis
Evan Hayssen
Nora Huntley
Shawn Jin
Nathan Johnson
Matthew Koulouris
Ron Kramer
Michelle Krupnik
Alexander Lee
Matthew Levine
Justin Lippa
Lea Macheras

John Malaguti
Rachel Mattison
Kerlyn McNamee
Benjamin McQuaide
Michael McQuillan
Sean McQuillan
Lydia Mesler
Brian Miller
Rebecca Miller
Sara Miller
Sarah Moroz
Holly Mulkern
Andrew Newcomb
Christopher Newton
Michelle Norton
Katherine Parker
Samantha Pellegrino
Jillian Pengeroth
Michael Pulido
Kevin Roberge
Jared Rosen
Dimitri Roumeliotis
Taylor Scout
Mitchell Slovin
Joshua Smith
Alyssa Solomon
John Terranova
William Wadman
Ioannis Wallingford
Alec Weiss
Brett Welch
Annie Ye
Ziyuan Zhang

HONORS
Hatim Abbasi
Thomas Adie
Sylvana Adly
Elon Beasley
Melissa Bustillo
Samantha Crompton
Rose Cross
Leah Curtis
Olivia Eisenbach
Christina Fang
Robert Flynn
Ari Goldstein
Taylor Gugger
Isaac Hache
Sara Heath
Cody Heneghan
Paul Jackson
Carolyn Jenkins
Jennifer Konjoian
Mackenzie Koravos
Patrick Leber
He Liu
Jillian Manning
Michael Marino
Glen Martin
Chaun Michael Medeiros
Rachel Ochs
David Ortiz
Jessica Park
Stephanie Pepin
Denton Perakis
Jacqueline Phan
Mackenzie Phaneuf

Meghan Pierce
John Prawdzik
Alexandra Savely
Ryan Thompson
Zackery Verrette

Grade 7

HIGH HONORS
Faiyad Ahmad
Peter Belanger III
Wilson Belbin
Matthew Binder
Haley Brennan
George Cheng
Erin Christopher
Zachary DeLuca
Kevin DiPasquale
Dillon Esdale
Ross Esdale
Kate Gilmore
Christopher Goodwin
Laura Hansen
Chelsea Hockman
Jeffrey Hu
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Andrew Osborne
Jennifer Quimbach
Anne Rao
Matthew Regan
James Roselle
Sharada Sant
Kelsey Scuit
Akira Sembomatsu
Michela Smith
Andrew Wait
Kyle Wanzek
In Joong Yoon
Daniel Yuan

HONORS
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Joseph McNiff
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Bjorn Merinder
Alexandra Morgan-Welch
Maryann O'Connell
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Laura Massey
Hannah Maue
Kacie McManus
Kyla McRoy
Jessica M. Miller
Kaitlin Nadelson
Danielle Paonessa
Heather Paonessa
Erica Potts
Qianli Shi
Heather Sullivan
Kelly Sullivan
Nicholas Terzakos
Satin Zarkar

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Schools are closed next week for spring vacation. Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools the following week, April 25-29:

Elementary schools

Monday: Corn dog with puffs, pizza stick with soft pretzel, chocolate chip pancakes with sausage, trix day, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Mozzarella sticks with fries, pizza ring, baked chicken nuggets, boxed breakfast, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Chicken McSchool with puffs, bakery pizza, nachos with taco meat and cheese, pita pocket with diced chicken, Lucky Tray Day, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Chicken fajita with rice, french toast sticks with potato pancakes, hot dog with fries, bagels and string, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Roast pork dinner with applesauce, slice of pizza, baked chicken nuggets, chicken caesar salad, fudge bar, fruit, veggie and milk.

Middle schools

Monday: Fish-and-chips, stuffed crust pizza, two hot dogs with chips, lucky tray, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Fried chicken with potato and corn, bakery pizza, chicken McSchool, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Chicken fajita wrap, rotini and meatballs, chicken caesar salad, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Roast turkey dinner, bakery pizza, cheeseburger with chips, apple cobbler, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Barbecue rib dippers over rice, stuffed crust pizza, pita pocket, fruit, veggie and milk.

Andover High School

Monday: Chicken McSchool, chicken, broccoli and ziti, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Fish-and-chips, rotini and meat sauce, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Roast turkey dinner, meatball sub, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Two toasted cheese sandwiches, spaghetti and meatballs, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Barbecue rib sub, baked macaroni and cheese, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Premium lunch choices are served daily at the middle schools and Andover High. AHS also offers a Courtyard Barbecue featuring grilled food; the Collins Center Café; Pastabilities; and a Market Basket cart with other food choices daily.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Karen Pappa, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

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NOTICE**TOWN OF ANDOVER
LEAF COMPOSTING**

The Town of Andover's leaf compost site at Bald Hill on High Plain Road will be open for Andover residents to drop off leaves and grass clippings **only**:

April 18th - May 21, 2005

Monday - Saturday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

~ and ~

Sunday

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Residents **MUST** remove their leaves and grass clippings from whatever container is used to transport. All contaminated loads will be rejected. The area is available for walk-ins at all times, however, there are substantial fines for **ILLEGAL** dumping.

Directions to Bald Hill: Lowell St. (Route 133) to Greenwood Rd. (at the traffic light just east of the IRS). Greenwood Rd. (0.8 miles) north to High Plain Rd. Left onto High Plain Rd., (1.0 miles) to Bald Hill (on left).

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

The Town of Andover will be conducting curbside leaf collection during the weeks April 17, April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15, and May 22. **Please note that Monday, April 18, is a holiday. Residents are to place leaves curbside by 7:00 a.m. on their regular scheduled collection day in trash barrels, brown paper leaf compost bags or CLEAR plastic bags ONLY.**

Opinion

Recharging, and charging ahead again

ANDOVER IS ONE OF THOSE TOWNS that can become a virtual ghost town when school vacation week rolls around. Huge segments of town will be leaving on trips or relaxing at home. Given the stormy difficulties of this winter, for many residents, vacation has been the oasis calling to them from beyond the piles of sand and salt at the edge of their driveways. Now that it is here, it is to be enjoyed.

We hope residents who do take a vacation next week are refreshed by it, and return recharged. Because on Monday, April 25, the Annual Town Meeting will begin. Andover could use some energetic citizens to take a hand in charting its future course.

Among the subjects to be decided:

BUDGET PRIORITIES: Andover's budget remains tight, with fees charged for many items that some grumble are not mere "extras," but services that should be paid for by all taxpayers. The most vocal objectors have been parents of schoolchildren, who must pay fees for clubs, busing, parking, sports and more. Other departments, such as police, say they have been working understaffed for years.

SENIOR CENTER: Andover seniors have been actively pursuing a senior center for more than a decade, and this year they will present a plan and ask for \$7.6 million in construction money. A recent survey of the town found that it was not seen as a good place for seniors to live. Residents must decide if this center is the correct remedy.

CLEAN DRINKING WATER: The town will seek another \$6.5 million to improve its water treatment plant.

These three are the most costly items, but by no means the only important ones. Town Meeting is a direct democracy, where people can shape the world around them, and the pocketbook they carry with them through it. Moderator Jim Doherty has often noted that Andover might host the largest Town Meeting in the world. After the lucky vacationers return to town, we encourage them to take part.

Web question

What priority are building repairs?

Last week's *Townsmen* Web-site question was: Local physical education teachers say scaling back school gym class to one 45 minute session per week has contributed to so many students being below the national average for physical endurance. Do you agree?

- 37 people voted
- 21, or 57 percent, said, "Yes. Physical education in schools is essential to help young children learn and develop healthy living habits. Gym classes need to meet more than once per week to achieve those results."
- 3, or 8 percent, said, "Yes. But with the town schools facing another tight budget year, parents need to step up their child's daily intake of physical activity outside of school."
- 3, or 8 percent, said, "No. If schools get extra funding to restore cut programs, it should be spent on academics. The town offers plenty of youth activities to keep kids physically active."
- 10, or 27 percent, said, "No. School gym classes do not have much effect. But a daily dose of play time does. Turning off the television,

computer and video games after school would really make a difference in kids physical health."

• No one said, "Other."

This week's *Townsmen* Web-site question: **Town Meeting voters will be asked to approve \$1.5 million for major building projects affecting schools, including replacing the steps at Memorial Auditorium and the Collins Center stage floor at Andover High. Should the warrant article pass?**

• Yes. Funding through Article 11 is needed for all the line items to ensure students are in the safest environment possible, and the town does not have to pay more later.

• Yes. But some of the major maintenance projects seem to take a higher priority than others. Money could be saved if certain projects were taken off the list for now.

• No. With another tough budget year, taxpayers cannot expect to carry everything. The projects listed can wait until next year.

• Other.

To vote, surf to www.andovertownsman.com.

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SWING CLEANING



Brian Keane (left) and Josh Buczynski kick off spring by tuning up for golf at Sarkisian Farms and Driving Range.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

LETTERS

Seniors deserve proposed center

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I would like to reply to "How will we run center after it's open?" (Letters, April 7)

The present Andover Senior Center is staffed by 13 paid employees. The new center will require the addition of one half-time janitor. The balance of the staffing will be the same, with almost 300 volunteers presently donating thousands of free hours per year. I might add that the vast majority of these volunteers are senior citizens themselves.

New programs and activities will be paid by fees, and will pay for themselves.

How will we pay for the anticipated \$33,111 increase in maintenance and utilities?

Let's look at the budget. Do people know that 58 percent of the total Andover budget is for education (buildings and staff). That comes to more than \$9,000 per student.

Looking at the same budget, the total senior center budget works out to be \$100 per senior citizen, aged 55 and older.

We certainly don't hold our senior citizens in high regard. We should be ashamed. How soon we forget! These are the same people who voted for more taxes, fought for Proposition 2½ overrides, and paid the price in the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s to get the excellent schools and teachers that we have today. We owe them a great big thank you for what they accomplished. Let's find a way, and build them a new senior center that they, and Andover, can be proud of.

Warren A. Rehe
3 Hampton Lane

LETTERS POLICY

THE *Townsmen* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published. The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsmen* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper.

About 'Thursday File'

Steve MacDowall's file can be found at www.hudsonvalley.com, and it offers quotations such as these.

A pilgrim's reflection on Pope John Paul II

It is 4:28 p.m. on Saturday, April 2 and I have just learned that His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, has mercifully passed away. As one might expect, the news outlets are focusing primarily on the historical significance of John Paul II's papacy. However, my reflections on the pope are far more personal and emotional in nature.

While on pilgrimage to Italy in 2001, my husband and I attended an outdoor papal audience. As a semi-professional photographer, I had come to the audience with high hopes of capturing a photograph of His Holiness even though it would no doubt have to be taken from a considerable distance; I had my long lens at the ready. Surprisingly, we found ourselves seated near the front and directly on the center aisle; little did we know the significance this serendipitous seating would come to play.

As is customary, the papal audience began with the arrival of Pope John Paul II in the "Pope-mobile," which made its way up and around the side and cross aisles before finally proceeding slowly down the center aisle. As the vehicle turned onto the center aisle, I realized we were going to be no more than eight feet away



The letter writer captured this image of the pontiff.

PHOTO BY WILDA GERIDEAU-SQUIRES

from the pope. In nervous anticipation, I raised my camera and began quickly doing trial focusing. When the Holy Father was almost directly in front of us, I looked into the lens, focused and found myself looking directly into the eyes of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. Instead of immediately releasing the shutter, for a split second I considered lowering my camera so that I could look directly into the Holy Father's gentle eyes without a camera separating us. But then, just as quickly, another thought came to me. If I didn't take the photograph right then, then only I would have that moment. But, if I released the shutter, then I would have captured a photograph of him, on that day and at that moment in time, which would remain forever and

could be shared with others. And so, this photograph is a result of what was and will remain one of the most spiritually profound experiences of my life. Even as I look at it today with the Holy Father having just passed away, I feel no sadness really, but rather gratitude that I was blessed with the opportunity to share space with His Holiness; to look into his gentle eyes; to see the man; to see this holy man.

Wilda Gerideau-Squires
12 Iron Gate Drive

Choosing public good over private privilege

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Kudos from Common Cause Massachusetts to Andover state Sen. Sue Tucker and Rep. Barbara L'Italien for cosponsoring our sweeping redistricting reform proposal. Along with more than 50 colleagues from all over the state, and the League of Women Voters, the NAACP, MassVOTE and other organizations, they support a more open, fair and competitive

redistricting process.

Instead of the legislature creating legislative and Congressional districts, the Fair Districts bill cosponsored by Tucker and L'Italien would create a non-partisan nine-member panel to draw district lines after each federal census. The panel would be subject to public scrutiny and input at all stages. District lines would have to be drawn around town boundaries,

"nest" smaller districts within larger ones, group towns according to common interests and backgrounds, and respect minority voting rights. Addresses of individuals, including those of office-holders, and party affiliation would be excluded from consideration. In short, the process would have to be fair.

Electoral boundaries are the

Continued on page 13

THE THURSDAY FILE

A lie goes around the world while the truth is still putting its boots on.

AUSTRALIAN PROVERB

There are admirable potentialities in every human being. Believe in your strength and your youth. Learn to repeat endlessly to yourself, "It all depends on me."

ANDRE GIDE

Follow bad news with good if possible.

HOWARD RUBENSTEIN

Be kind, everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.

JOHN WATSON

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

I don't know if you're ever finished trying to improve. As soon as you feel like you are finished, then I guess you are finished, because you've already put a limit on your ability and what you can attain. I don't think that's right.

TIGER WOODS, 1999,
SOTOGRADE, SPAIN

Humpty Dumpty - did he fall or was he pushed?

P.D. JAMES

The secret of success is constancy to purpose.

BENJAMIN DISRAELI

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.

HERM ALBRIGHT

The Einstein quotation

Few people are capable of expressing with equanimity opinions which differ from the prejudices of their social environment. Most people are even incapable of forming such opinions.

LETTERS

State legislators:

New senior center would be cost-effective asset

Editor, Townsman:

A new Andover Senior Center is on the verge of becoming a reality. The Senior Center Task Force has put an enormous amount of time and effort into this project. After being tasked by the town manager and Board of Selectmen more than three years ago, the group has gone through all the necessary steps. First, they examined if there was a need – there was. Next, they examined potential sites, to see if one met the needs of the current seniors and the community at large – one did. And finally, with the help of an architect and 2004 Town Meeting approved design money, the group has put forth a well thought out plan for a new senior center on the Bartlett Street site.

Currently, multiple sites are used to provide the services that this one center will offer. It is our opinion that a central location for all the town's seniors, in the center of the town they know and love, would be a show of respect and gratitude towards our parents and grandparents – members of the greatest generation. We have an appropriate site, plans for an attractive building, and a cost-effective way to provide a new senior center that will meet the programming needs of today's seniors and those of tomorrow. Such a center would be an asset to the entire community.

The task force is almost finished with its job. At Town Meeting later this month, the group will put forth a warrant article for construction costs for this project. We cannot ignore the benefits of such an investment as our senior population is expected to climb to nearly 10,000 in less than a decade. We hope everyone will come to recognize the need and value in such a project and come forward to support it.

State Rep. Barry R. Finegold
Stirling Street
State Rep. Barbara L'Italien
Harper Circle
State Sen. Susan C. Tucker
Farrwood Drive

We spend \$100 per elder; 100 times that per student

Editor, Townsman:

Like many parents in Andover, my wife and I decided to move to this community in large part based on the widespread reputation for excellence earned by the Andover Public Schools. Friends who have lived here for many years have reinforced the views held by many outside the community that the school system in Andover is one of the best in the Commonwealth. We are now proud to have three children in the school system, and we, like all parents, want to see the best for our children, and we want the town to support our school department to the maximum extent possible.

However, as recent arrivals in town, we have been somewhat dismayed by the nature of the discourse surrounding the budget discussions this year (we cannot speak for past years). During recent meetings during which town and school issues have been discussed, there

seems to be developing a concerted campaign against the senior-center project, based on emotional arguments.

The thrust of this campaign is that every dollar spent for the seniors of Andover is a dollar lost to the students of Andover. Besides being untrue, this sentiment is obnoxious. Should the senior-center proposal pass at Town Meeting and in a general election to follow, the funding will be by bonding, and the bonding will not be against the current property taxes used to support our town and school (out town) budget. This will in no way affect the money available for town services, including the schools.

Certainly, the operating budget for the senior center will increase; the senior population is increasing. People should remember, however, that many of the programs and classes sponsored by the senior center are supported by user fees (a sit-

uation familiar to all parents in Andover with children in the public schools). We are also supporting an approximate \$3 million increase in the school department budget this year. We are currently contributing approximately \$100 per senior to support the services the town provides through the Senior Center and almost \$10,000 per student to support the services the town provides through the School Department.

Until recently, I was non-committal on the senior-center article. In fact, it was hardly on my radar screen. I am going to wholeheartedly support the senior-center project now, however, and I hope that those who so strongly advocate for the students in this town can find it in their hearts to share the abundant blessings this town enjoys.

Franck Salameh
47 High St.

US SENATE

Filibuster part of nation's balance

Editor, Townsman:

A balance of power is written into our Constitution. It prevents single-party domination. Originally advocated by John Locke, it is the basis for our three-branch federal government. The proposed "nuclear option" places the balance of power in jeopardy.

Presently, the Republican Party controls the executive and legislative branches, with eyes on the judiciary. Its attempt to stack the judiciary is to outlaw filibuster, an extended debate in the Senate which prevents a vote. A vote occurs only once debate ends.

Republicans used the filibuster. Former US Sen. Strom Thurmond holds the record for the longest individual speech, over 24 hours against the Civil Rights Act of 1957. Republicans used it to block the ABC Fortas nomination as chief justice of the United States. Last term, the Democrats filibustered only 10 of 230 Bush nominees. The Republicans, however, blocked 60 of President Clinton's. Now that the filibuster is being used to thwart the Republican agenda, they want to destroy it.

The balance of power is best protected by retaining the filibuster. Keep the courts fair.

Mary Sacksteder
22 Florence St.

(The letter writer is the group leader for Operation Democracy in the Andover area.)

Legislators backed public good

REDISTRICTING

Continued from page 12

building blocks of democracy and for too long they have been manipulated for political gain. The result in Massachusetts has been the second highest rate of uncontested legislative elections in the nation for the past six years, confusion over who represents whom, and crazy district

lines that make districts difficult to represent.

By taking a leadership role in this effort, Tucker and L'Italien have taken a strong stand for the public good over private privilege. This is never easy, but it is always commendable.

Pam Wilmut
Executive Director
Common Cause Massachusetts

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Other features:

MSN® Premium with Virus Guard®, Firewall, Parental Controls, Pop-up Blocker and Spam Protection	Yes
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Free Networking Router	Yes
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Activation Fee	None

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, April 14

Poetry reading and book signing. Paul Hudon will read from his popular illustrated history, *Lower Merrimack: The Valley and Its Peoples*, 7 p.m. at the Andover Bookstore, 89R Main St.; Karen Harris 800-491-0143.

How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, performed by the "On-Stagers," a theatrical group of Merrimack College students, 8 p.m., \$10, \$5 students and seniors, Rogers Center for the Arts, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5355 or e-mail Sean.Kelso@merrimack.edu.

Book sale, sponsored by Auxiliary of Lowell General Hospital, offering premium hardcover books, gifts, stationery and educational projects reasonably priced from Books Are Fun, proceeds benefit direct patient care at the hospital, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in the hospital lobby; Amanda MacFadden 978-937-6425.

Women, Men and Wages, former Lt. Gov. Evelyn Murphy will be guest speaker at a forum titled, "Are Women Getting Even? Women, Men and Wages," 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., free, Alumni Library Lounge on University of Massachusetts Lowell North campus; 978-934-4380.

Chinese House at PEM, Joe Younger, a docent at the Peabody Essex Museum, will share the story of the 200-year-old Chinese house from the rural village of Huang, which was painstakingly dismantled and reassembled at the museum in Salem, 2 p.m., library conference area at the Haverhill campus of Northern Essex Community College, \$1 admission, open to the public, 100 Elliott St., Haverhill; Life Long Learning coordinator Charlene Boucher 978-5576-3825 or e-mail: cboucher@necce.edu.

Friday, April 15

Mother's Day Bazaar, sponsored by Wingate at Andover, featuring fine sterling silver jewelry, hand-crafted pottery, tablecovers and scarves and other gift items, 20 percent of proceeds to benefit the resident council fund, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., in the lobby at Wingate, 80 Andover St.; 978-470-3434

How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, 8 p.m., see April 14 entry.

Book sale at Lowell General Hospital, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., see April 14 entry.

Saturday, April 16

The Harvard Glee Club and New England String Ensemble, conducted by Susan Davenny Wyner, performs Schubert and Richard Strauss, and debuts a work by Israeli composer Betty Olivero, 8 p.m., a preconcert discussion one hour before performance, tickets \$29 and \$19, \$10 students, Cochran Chapel on the Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St.; 978-749-4263 or music@andover.edu.

Celestial happenings, stargazing, and sun-gazing with the help of members of the North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club, Astronomy Day, 2-5 p.m. solar observing, 8-10 p.m. star gazing, telescopes available and Merrimack College Observatory open to the public, free, Merrimack College 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5355 or debra.simone@merrimack.edu.

Foreign film festival, 8 p.m., Federico Fellini's Academy Award-winning autobiographical masterpiece, third

in a three-film series presented by Northern Essex Community College, 8 p.m., free and open to the public, 82 Amesbury St., Lawrence; Mark Palermo 978-5576-3000, Ext. 7463 or mpalermo@necce.edu, or neccefilmfest.tripod.com.

Bean supper, home-baked beans, ham and hotdogs, potato salad, cole slaw, dessert, sponsored by the Lawrence Council No. 67, Knights of Columbus, \$5, \$2 for children under 12, 4-7 p.m., One Market St., Lawrence; 978-687-9834.

Rockin' Gospel, Agape, a contemporary Christian band, will perform at 7:30 p.m., free, all ages welcome, at the Cove Coffeehouse, 1195 Varnum Ave., Lowell; Douglas MacCormack 603-232-0831 or Doug@agapetheband.com.

Folk concert, James Keelaghan, described as a "true folk hero in Canada," will perform at 8 p.m., \$15, at the New Moon Coffeehouse, 16 Ashland St., junction of routes 110 and 125, Haverhill. Chuck Hall opens the evening; 978-373-9259 or 372-5173 after 4 p.m. on show day.

Concert, cellist Karen Wilson will perform music by J.S. Bach, Brahms, Fauré and Hindemith, with the accompaniment of Frances Burmeister, in memory of her mother, Jean C. Wilson, 4 p.m., free, First Religious Society Parish Hall, 26 Pleasant St., Newburyport; 978-465-0602.

College chorus, Endicott College Chorus and vocal ensembles will perform selections from *The Phantom of the Opera*, and songs by Billy Joel, Elton John and others, 7:30 p.m., free, Endicott College Chapel, 376 Hale St., Beverly; 978-232-2156.

How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, 2 and 8 p.m., see April 14 entry.

Sunday, April 17

Piano recital, featuring senior Luis Ortiz, an award-winning 17-year-old pianist from Haverhill, performing works of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy and Harbison, 4 p.m., free and open to the public, the Timken Room at Graves Hall, Phillips Academy; Elisa Martyn 978-749-4263 or music@andover.edu.

Photo demonstration, by Andover resident Robert Friedenson, sponsored by the Andovers Artists Guild, 2 p.m., free to members, \$2 guest fee, North Parish Church, corner of Academy and Great Pond roads, North Andover; Val 978-658-4693.

Come to the Cabaret, the Merrimack Valley Chorus will host a cabaret event featuring silent auction of prizes (e.g., Red Sox tickets), a 50-50 raffle and performances by the chorus and local quartets, to raise funds needed to send the chorus to the Harmony Classics Competition in July in Greenville, S.C., 2 p.m., \$5, Tewksbury-Wilmington Elks Hall, Tewksbury; Mary 781-862-6634 or www.merrimackvalleychorus.org.

Legendary Leon Russell, and his band, who played backup to some of rock and roll's most successful recording artists (Jerry Lee Lewis, Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones, Willie Nelson) and who wrote and now records his own award-winning songs, opening act EJ Ouellette and Crazy Maggy, 7 p.m., tickets \$30, Newburyport City Hall, 60 Pleasant St., Newburyport; 978-834-0367.

Continued on page 16



Author Robert Parker and his wife, Joan, dropped by the open house reception for CoCo Collection, a women's clothing store at 93 Main St. in Olde Andover Village.

Tailor-made: Spenser author back in town

By Judy Wakefield

IT'S BEEN ABOUT 20 YEARS since Hollywood actor Robert Ulrich starred in the Boston-based *Spenser*: For Hire television show and settled in Andover with his family.

Ulrich's *Spenser* show ran for three years starting in 1985 and he commuted to Boston from his home near Phillips Academy while his children attended St. Augustine School. Sadly, Ulrich was just 55 when he died of cancer three years ago this week.

But the Andover connection to *Spenser* continues to live on. In fact, the author behind the *Spenser* book series and the popular private eye was in town last week, and he lived in Andover himself during the 1960s.

Author Robert Parker and his wife, Joan, stepped in as the celebrity hosts at the open house reception for CoCo Collection, a women's clothing and accessory store in Olde Andover Village at 93 Main St.

Nancy and Richard Dube are the new owners of the store formerly known as Vena Coco Collection. The Dubes and Parkers are longtime friends.

It was a homecoming of sorts for the Parkers, who are set to celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary this summer, as they lived in Andover back in the early 1960s.

"We were on the second floor at 80 Chestnut," Robert Parker said of his former address, noting that a job at Raytheon brought him to town back then.

Meanwhile, his wife had a job at the telephone company in Lawrence and made friends with a woman who loved clothes as much as she did. That friend was Nancy Dube. "Yes, we go way back," the CoCo-clad and stylish Joan Parker said of the friendship, as she searched the store racks for the latest summer fashions. She's a longtime Vena Coco fan, as she has had new store arrivals shipped to her every Friday for several years. "I've always loved these clothes and we were happy to stop by today for the open house," she said.

Nearby, her sunglasses-wearing husband opened his suit jacket, revealing yet another local retail connection. He's been a customer of the Andover Tailor Shop for several years.

"They make all my clothes," he said. The timing of the Parkers' visit suited the author perfectly, as he is between books.

He still writes his *Spenser* series and next up is *School Days*, set to be published in October.

He would not divulge what *Spenser* is up to in the new book. Parker is a mystery

"We were on the second floor at 80 Chestnut."

AUTHOR ROBERT PARKER WHO WITH HIS WIFE, JOAN, WAS BACK IN TOWN LAST WEEK AT THE OPEN HOUSE RECEPTION FOR COCO COLLECTION

writer, after all, and would only say, "he doesn't die and doesn't marry Susan," referring to the character of Susan Silverman, *Spenser's* lover, a feminist therapist.

"I don't golf, don't like daytime television, so I might as well type," Parker, 73, said of his prolific writing regimen, which usually works out to a new book every eight weeks.

Parker did not begin writing full-time until 1979, after his first five *Spenser* novels had already been published.

Before that, he had worked in advertising and technical writing until 1962, when he turned to the world of academics. During the next 16 years, he earned a doctorate in literature from Boston University and became a full professor at Northeastern University. He retired in 1979 to write full-time.

But he does not always write about the

wisecracking and literate hero named Spenser. Hitting the bookstore shelves before the new *Spenser* book is *Appaloosa*, Parker's second western novel. Set in the 1800s, *Appaloosa* comes out in June.

Another book series features a character named Jesse Stone, and it, too, has received Hollywood notice. Actor Tom Selleck has played Stone in a TV movie called *Stone Cold*. Parker had been a frequent visitor to the Stone set in Toronto.

While his popular *Spenser* character is a private detective, his Stone character is a former Los Angeles police detective with a drinking problem who becomes chief of police in a small Massachusetts town called Paradise.

Parker, who lives in Cambridge, said he would like it if the Jesse Stone series was turned into a television series, as he certainly enjoyed the *Spenser* run. All filming was done in and around Boston and, of course, royalty checks are always a plus, he said.

He has talked to Selleck about the possibility of a series, but said Selleck is busy with other projects and is not interested in the hectic schedule of a television series right now.

So Parker is sticking to his writing and enjoying time off with his wife.

Often that includes catching up with friends such as the Dubes, and that's fine by him.



From left are Robert and Joan Parker, and their longtime friends, Nancy and Richard Dube, who own the store formerly known as Vena Coco Collection.



Andover residents (from left) Ben Pascucci, April Foley and Michael Consoli rehearse for the Colonial Chorus Players' musical "Once On This Island," which will be staged April 22, 23, 30 and May 1 at Reading Memorial High School. Call 781-944-9780 for tickets or for more information.

Local chapter of Archaeological Society to hold annual meeting Tuesday

The Northeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the R. S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology.

Michael Volmar will speak on "The Massachusetts Archaeological Society in 2005."

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Volmar, the curator of Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, Mass., is the new president of the MAS. He will offer an update on the workings of the society and describe some of the changes he has overseen since

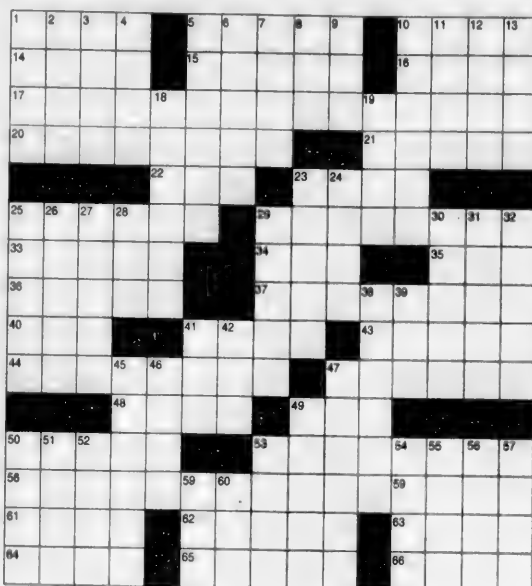
his election last October. Following his prepared presentation, he has offered to take questions. This is an excellent opportunity to get better acquainted with the MAS, parent organization of the local Northeast Chapter in Andover, organizers said. The Northeast Chapter of the

Mass. Archaeology Society meets the third Tuesday of the month, September through June. Membership is open to all those interested in furthering their study of archaeology and prehistoric and historic cultural history. Call the Peabody Museum at 978-749-4490.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Town
5. Collision
10. Raincoats
14. Predatory whale
15. Wife of Mohammed
16. Double-reed instrument
17. Tight feeling
20. Harshness of manner
21. Peers
22. Belonging to a thing
23. Gentlemen
25. Emotionally or mentally perturbed
29. Strokings
33. Limit point
34. Minnesota town
35. Temporary military housing
36. Fuels
37. Hygienic
40. European money
41. A minute amount (Scott)
43. Hebrew prophet
44. Wraiths
47. Showing exaggerated propriety
48. Swiss river
49. Viral disease
50. The marketplace in ancient Greece
53. Coast
58. May be used in minor surgery
61. Terror
62. The meaning of a word or expression
63. A small drink of liquor



64. The dried leaves of the hemp plant
65. Base of statue
66. In a way, creates from raw material

CLUES DOWN

1. Weapon
2. Large extinct wild ox
3. Canadian law enforcers
4. Be wide open
5. Normal powers of mind
6. Maulers
7. With fireplace residue
8. The woman
9. Protects from weather
10. Mire
11. Spoken in NE India

12. Anthracite
13. Plants
18. Flowers
19. Towards the speaker
23. Anwar ___, Egyptian statesman
24. Asian country
25. Irrational motives
26. Civil Rights group
27. Result
28. Length of time
29. Sheaths
30. Many kings
31. Mythological wind, Greek
32. Blockade
38. Influx
39. A citizen of Thailand
41. Of she
42. They ___
45. Weight units
46. Afrikaans
47. Dishes
49. A broad horizontal band across a shield
50. Vestments
51. Blood
52. Oxalis
53. Assign to a station
54. Command
55. Occupational Safety and Health Act
56. A joke that seems extremely funny
57. Corrodes
59. Cobra
60. Born of

SOLUTION ON PAGE 17

EVENTS CALENDAR

■ APRIL 14 THRU APRIL 24

Continued from page 15

Antique appraisal festival, to benefit Merrimack Valley Hospice, featuring dealers from the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire, 2-5 p.m., \$25 ticket includes musical entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, and the appraisal of two objects, additional appraisals can be purchased for \$10, Steeple Hall, Newburyport; 978-552-4748.

Monday, April 18

Patriots Day holiday

No events listed.

Tuesday, April 19

Mass. Archaeological Society meeting, featuring Michael Volmar, MAS president, addressing the workings of MAS, 7:30 p.m., R.S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, corner of Main and Phillips streets; 978-749-4490.

Wednesday, April 20

Poetry reading and book signing, Powow River Poets monthly reading series, featuring New York City resident Samuel Menashe, 2004 winner of the first Neglected Masters Award presented by The Poetry Foundation, and Michael Schmidt, professor of English and director of the Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University

ty in England, 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Newburyport Art Association Gallery, 65 Water St., Newburyport; Lois Frankenberg 978-470-0040.

Thursday, April 21

Anything Goes, Cole Porter's musical hit from the 1930s featuring favorites such as *Delovely*, *You're the Top*, *Let's Misbehave* and the title song, *Anything Goes*, performed by the Pentucket Players, 8 p.m., \$20, \$15 students and seniors, discount of \$5 per adult ticket for groups of 20 or more, Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-470-3445.

Hansel and Gretel, performed by the Concord Youth Theatre and recommended for children 4 or older, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., \$8.50, Concord Youth Theatre, 40 Stow St., Concord (across from Concord Library in Concord Center); Corinne 978-371-1482 or www.concordyouththeatre.org.

Open auditions, for adult roles ages early 20s and up to perform the comedy *Love, Sex, and the I.R.S.*, June 2-19 with The Valley Players, 7-10 p.m., The Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; 978-388-9444.

Book sale, sponsored by the Employee Activities Committee of Merrimack Valley Hospital, offering hundreds of new books, games, music and gift items reasonably priced from Books Are Fun, proceeds benefit employee recognition and other employee activities at the hospital, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., outside the hospital gift shop; 978-521-8651.

Continued on page 17

Sample fine wines to benefit PMA

The PMA Alumnae Association is hosting "Fine Wines of the World ... For Under \$20," a lesson in sampling with sommelier Jonathan Tagliani of Andover Liquors, on Wednesday, May 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Jackson's Restaurant, Route 110 in Methuen.

The event is open to graduates, parents and friends of PMA.

The evening includes hors d'oeuvres, music and raffles, as well as a short lesson on wine-tasting and "plenty of vino to sample," organizers said.

Tickets are \$35 per person. Proceeds benefit the PMA Alumnae Scholarship Fund.

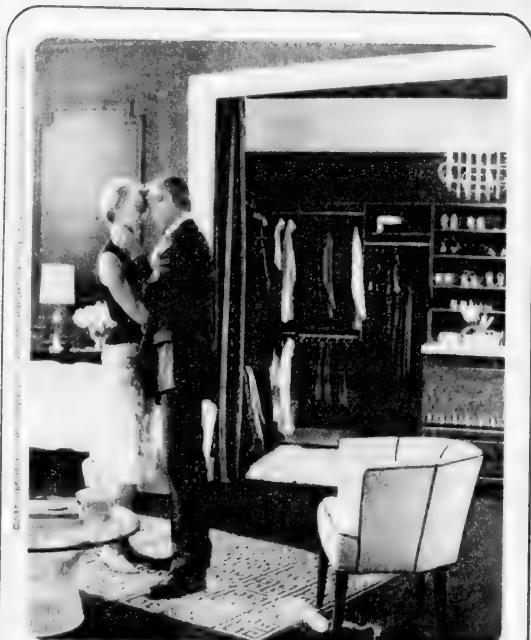
For reservations, contact Barbara Black at 978-682-9391, Ext. 105 by April 24.

ENTERING ANDOVER

By Neil Fater and Don Mathias



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NOTICE

A fire flow test will be conducted on **Saturday, April 16, 2005**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the **Stowe Court area**. Water may be discolored for a period of time in the **Main-South Main Street, Bartlett Street, Morton Street, Chestnut Street areas**. To help alleviate the problem, please run your outside spigot(s) until the water clears.



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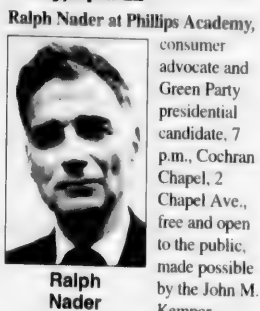
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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ APRIL 14 THRU APRIL 24
Continued from page 16

Friday, April 22



Ralph Nader

Ralph Nader at Phillips Academy, consumer advocate and Green Party presidential candidate, 7 p.m., Cochran Chapel, 2 Chapel Ave., free and open to the public, made possible by the John M. Kemper Memorial Fund; 978-749-4185.

Once on This Island, a Broadway musical called an "energetic and heartfelt parable about love and forgiveness," performed by the Colonial Chorus Players, including Andover residents Michael Consoli, April Foley, Ben Pascucci, Mary Anne Ronan and Wendy Smith, and with the backstage assistance of several additional Andoverites, 8 p.m., \$15, \$12 students and seniors, and the players request audience members to bring a donation for the Reading Food Pantry, Reading Memorial High School Auditorium; 781-944-9780.

Las Vegas night, fundraiser for Troop 60, 7-10:30 p.m., St. Lucy's Church Hall, 254 Merrimack St., Methuen; Matt Augeri 603-818-9210.

Dance and raffle, "Give Brooke a Lift" by purchasing a \$50 raffle ticket for a \$10,000 grand prize to be drawn at a dance fundraiser, proceeds will purchase a van to transport first-grader Brooke, who has cerebral palsy; drawing 8 p.m., ticketholder does not have to be present to win, Groveland Fairways, 156 Main St., Groveland; Laurie 508-843-8667.

Book sale at Merrimack Valley Hospital, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., see April 21 entry.

Anything Goes, 8 p.m., see April 21 entry.

Saturday, April 23

Anything Goes, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., see April 21 entry.

Once on This Island, 8 p.m., see April 22 entry.

Sunday, April 24

High tea with Gilbert and Sullivan, The Lowell Opera Company will perform favorite Gilbert and Sullivan tunes in a Victorian high tea setting, featuring finger sandwiches, scones and dainties, audience should be prepared to sing along, 2

p.m., \$15, \$10 seniors and students, Lowell Senior Center, 276 Broadway, Lowell; 978-441-6926 or www.operalowell.org.

Ongoing Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art, *Eye on the Collection: Copley to Hopper*, Selections from the Addison's extensive permanent collection including more than 40 landscapes, cityscapes, still-lives and portraits that span 200 years of the richness and complexity of American art, through July 31; *Manifest Destiny*, a provocative 8-by-24-foot acrylic mural on board, depicting Brooklyn, N.Y., in an apocalyptic future, through June 5, with a discussion of the work by the artist, Alexis Rockman, on April 26 at 8 p.m. in the Kemper Auditorium at Phillips Academy; Gallery hours Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m., free admission, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

Alpers Fine Art of Andover, through May 15: "In Season," a group exhibit of 45 contemporary florals by nine area artists, artists' reception April 9 from 6 to 9 p.m., gallery hours Tuesday, 2-6 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 2 Main St.; 978-470-0013 or www.alpersfineart.com.

Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, *Objects and their Meanings: Historical Highlights of the Peabody*, displays ethnographic objects from museum's collections of North and South America and a series of photographs that illustrate the activities of the museum's key people during the last century; Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m., by appointment only, free admission, Phillips Academy campus, 175 Main St.; 978-749-4490.

A Beautiful Day Hair Care Salon, displaying the work of blind artist Richard Eisenberg through April, 885 Main St., Tewksbury; Ann Hall 978-475-9187.

Arthur Griffin Museum of Photography, Main Gallery: winning photographs from the 11th annual Griffin Museum Juried Show, through May 15; Emerging Artist Gallery: photographs by Julie Melton and Rachel Papo, through May 15; Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., \$5 admission, \$2 seniors, members and children under 12 free, Thursday admission is free all day, 67 Shore Road, Winchester; 781-729-1158, www.griffinmuseum.org.

Brush Art Gallery, free admission,

256 Market St., Lowell; Eileen Byrne 978-459-7819, www.the-brush.org.

Robert Lehman Art Center at Brooks School, gallery hours Tuesday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, 2:30-5 p.m., 1160 Great Pond Road, North Andover; 978-725-6232.

Whistler House Museum of Art, Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4, 243 Worthen St., Lowell; 978-452-7641.

Churchill Gallery, an exhibition of landscapes by award-winning artists Robert Scott Jackson and Dennis Sheehan, gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m., 6 Inn St., Newburyport; 978-462-9891.

Essex Art Center, gallery hours Monday, 3-7 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., galleries are free and open to the public; Essex Art Center, 56 Island St., Lawrence; Cathy McLaurin 978-685-2343 or www.essexartcenter.com.

McCoy Gallery, Merrimack College, hours Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., free admission; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Memorial Hall Library, Andover resident David Cugnasca creates photographic images; his art exhibition of black-and-white pinhole photographs will be on display through April, Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; 978-623-8400, www.mnhl.org.

McQuade Gallery, located in the McQuade Library at Merrimack College, gallery hours same as library hours: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-midnight, Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-midnight, call to confirm hours, free admission; 978-837-5000.

Sakowich Campus Center, at Merrimack College, the Fireside and first floor lounges, call for hours; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Senior Center artists, talented artists participate in art classes and enjoy the "drop-in group" on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, art display

of oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, pastels and oriental brush art is in the Music Room; Andover Senior Center, Whittier Court; 978-623-8321.

Lorica Artworks, gallery specializing in original fine art from Ireland and America, featuring the largest collection of original fine art from Ireland in the Boston area, presents "Quiet Places," a collection of paintings by Irish artists celebrating the regions of Ireland and their intrinsic beauty; gallery hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, as well as by appointment, free admission, handicap access; 90 Main St.; 978-470-1829.

Walsingham Gallery, works by artists J.C. Airola, Robert Douglas Hunter, Jean Lightman, Elizabeth M. Leary, John Daniel Phillips, Frank Strazulla Jr., and others, gallery hours Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., closed Tuesdays, 47 Merrimack St., Newburyport; 978-499-4411 www.thewalsingham-gallery.com.

Montserrat College of Art Gallery, Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, 11 a.m.-noon, and by appointment, Carol Schlosberg Alumni Gallery, 23 Essex St., Beverly; 978-921-4242, Ext. 1319.

Evos Arts Gallery, free, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-441-9906 www.evovsarts.com.

Flint Memorial Library, 147 Park St., North Reading; 978-664-4942, www.flintmemoriallibrary.org.

Churchill Gallery, Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 6 Inn St., Newburyport, 978-462-9891.

The State of the Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Rocky Neck Art Colony, Gloucester; 978-463-8883.

Cape Ann Historical Museum, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 27 Pleasant St., Gloucester; 978-283-0455.

The Saltbox Gallery, gallery hours, Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5



Floral arranger Susan Delarm-Sandman (right) and assistant arranger Melanie Muggia (left) will represent the Spade and Trowel Garden Club by creating a flower design that interprets a work of art for Art in Bloom 2005 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Their flower design will be one of 70 created by New England garden clubs in this springtime tradition that showcases flower arranging as an art form, with floral designs inspired by works of art throughout the museum. This four-day festival of flowers takes place from Saturday, April 30 through Tuesday, May 3. This year's Art in Bloom features the first ever Family Day, with special activities for children and families; an Opening Celebration Party; and demonstrations and lectures by what organizers say are some of the most sought-after floral professionals. The "Give Arts a Chance" drawing features prizes ranging from a 2005 Prius hybrid car to field box seats behind home plate for Boston Red Sox games. Tickets are available on the MFA Web site at www.mfa.org, or call 617-369-3396.

p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 49 Main St., Topsfield; 978-887-3844.

Nevins Memorial Hall, 305 Broadway, Methuen; 978-686-4080.

J. David Broudo Gallery of Art, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Endicott College, 376 Hale St. (Route 127) Beverly; 978-232-2250.

Revolving Museum, audiences will be taken on a journey through a variety of innovative artworks that explore issues like pollution control and spirituality through nature, artist-driven museum, dedicated to presenting public art, exhibitions, educational programs, gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 22 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-937-2787.

Laura Coombs Hills Gallery, exhibition of large-format, black-and-white fine art photographs by Robert Pyle titled "The West of Ireland," on exhibit through March 23, gallery hours: Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 60 Water St., Newburyport; 978-670-9102, www.newburyport-art.org.

Mingo Gallery, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 252 Cabot St., Beverly; 978-927-5964.

Gelb Gallery at Phillips Academy, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday, noon-4 p.m.; 978-475-4419.

Bravos Arts Gallery, Thursday-Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., One East Main St., Georgetown; 978-352-8102.

Ayer Lofts Art Gallery, a cooperative artist-space in Lowell, Thursday, 6-9 p.m., Friday, Saturday, Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 172 Middle St., Lowell; Mandy Shear 617-335-0230 or ayerlofts.com/exhibits.

River Gallery, Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 4 Market St., Ipswich; 978-456-1559.

Ocmulgee Pottery & Fine Crafts, gallery hours Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 26 Market St., Ipswich; 978-456-1298.

Crescent Dragon Gallery, 59 Washington St., Haverhill; www.gallery-on-homestead.com/v1.html.

Newburyport Art Association, Sargent Gallery and the Hartson Gallery (upstairs), Laura Coombs Gallery, hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 66 Water St., Newburyport; 978-465-8769.

North Shore Arts Association of Gloucester, featuring sculptures, paintings, Pirate's Lane, Gloucester; 978-283-1857.

Erlich Gallery, gallery hours Tuesday through Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 96 Washington St., Marblehead; 781-631-1202.

Newburyport Art Association, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, noon-5 p.m., Sunday, 65 Water St.,

Continued on page 18

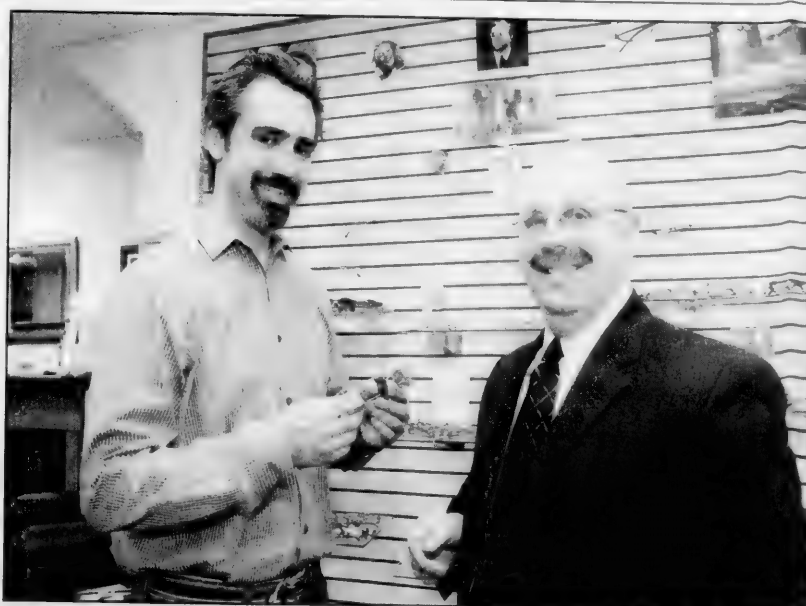
Artistic photography demonstration set

The Andovers Artists Guild will host a photography demonstration by Andover resident Robert Friedenson on Sunday, April 17, at 2 p.m. at the North Parish Church in North Andover. The North Parish Church is located at the corner of Academy and Great Pond roads in the Old Center, North Andover.

There is a \$2 fee for guests. For more information, call Val at 978-658-4693. The building is wheelchair accessible. The Andovers Artists Guild is a non-profit organization that offers scholarships to local high school students who plan to further their art education.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING

Continued from page 17

Newburyport; 978-465-8769.

Theater

Concord Players, *Memory of Water*, directed by Fred Robbins, 8 p.m. on April 22, 23, 29, 30, May 6 and 7, and 2 p.m. on May 1, \$15, Concord Players, 51 Walden St., Concord; 978-369-2990 or www.concord-players.org.

Le Grand David Spectacular

Magic Company, Sundays 3 p.m., \$18, \$12 children 11 and under, Cabot St. Cinema Theater, 286 Cabot St., Beverly; 978-927-3677.

Museums and Historic Homes

Andover Historical Society, tour the Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum for a glimpse into life in the early 19th century; exhibit in the Meeting Room: *Founding Farms*, a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, with photographs by Stan Sherer and text by Michael E. C. Gery. *Founding Farms* documents the long lives of five of the oldest farms in Massachusetts, including North Andover's Barker Farm; open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$5 admission, students \$3, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236, www.andhist.org.

Boott Cotton Mills Museum, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 400 Foot of John St., Lowell.

New England Quilt Museum, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 18 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-452-4207.

Lawrence Heritage State Park, daily, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., admission free, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence; 978-794-1655.

Wenham Museum, \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 2 and up, 132 Main St., Wenham; 978-468-2377.

Museum of Printing, 800 Massachusetts Ave., North Andover, featuring world's largest collection of antique printing, typesetting and bindery machines, as well as the world's largest library of printing-related books and documents; in addition, the museum has the extensive printing collection of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. The two 90-foot galleries, library and four floors of archival stacks are all available to the public, \$5 admission, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; 978-686-0450 or www.museumofprinting.org.

Custom House Maritime Museum, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., 25 Water St., Newburyport; its Lowell Boat Shop, 459 Main St., Amesbury, Wednesday-Sunday; 978-388-0162.

North Andover Historical Society, 153 Academy Road, North Andover, maintains two sites that feature museum galleries: 1789 Johnson Cottage, an artisan's home and workshop, and 1715 Parson

Barnard House, depicting life from 1715-1830, 179 Osgood St., changing exhibits highlight local life from the 17th- to the 20th century, library and archive, \$3 adults, \$1 children, \$2 seniors, Johnson Cottage, tours Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m., \$5 adults for a combined tour of both properties; 978-686-4035.

American Textile History Museum, Textiles in America - Permanent exhibit of textiles, tools, machines, photographs, advertising ephemera, and other artifacts shows how people have used art and science during the past 250 years to create beautiful and useful textiles; more than 500 artifacts from the museum's collections are used in imaginative period settings and gallery displays; ATHM, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; weekends, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; admission \$6 for adults; \$4 for students, seniors, and groups; free for children under 6 and museum members, parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible; 978-441-0400 or www.athm.org.

Peabody Essex Museum, *Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the Caribbean*, an exhibit of 13 works of art by four current artists, through June 5; *In Nature's Company*, featuring works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists who rely on nature for their creative source, through Sept. 18; Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$13 adults, \$11 seniors, \$9 students; free for children under 16; East India Square, Salem, Mass.; 978-755-1876 or 866-745-1876, www.pem.org.

The Revolving Museum, hours are Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 22 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-937-2787 www.revolvingmuseum.org.

Dracula's Castle, unusual lore of New England focusing on strange ghostly and unexplained events, \$6, \$4 ages 8-14, Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., 90 Lafayette St., Salem; Dan Tremblay 978-777-2711.

House of Seven Gables, open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$10 (2 for 1 admission for Essex County residents with proof of residency), 54 Turner St., Salem; 978-744-0991, www.7gables.org.

Stephen Phillips Memorial Trust House, tours Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free, 34 Chestnut St., Salem, Mass.; 978-744-0440.

Learning the language of music

Concert to benefit for Andover/Lawrence String Program

THE PHILLIPS ACADEMY Music Department and the Lawrence Family Development Charter School present a concert to benefit the Andover/Lawrence String Program.

Founders of the Andover/Lawrence String Program are William Thomas, PA director of performance and instructor of music, and Carmen Schumann, head of school (lower school) of the Lawrence Family Development Charter School and a past PA parent. Co-leaders of this program are Phillips Academy seniors Carina Serezze from Haydenville, Mass., Amy Tsao from Newton, Mass., and Ian Schmertzler from Andover.

The concert will feature the Phillips Academy Chamber Orchestra and students of the Andover/Lawrence String Program. The concert will include Copland's *Rodeo* and Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor,"* featuring Luis Ortiz, PA '05 from Haverhill. The program will also include a performance by students from the Andover/Lawrence String Program.

Begun with an Abbot Academy Association grant and now

in its eighth year, the Andover/Lawrence Strings Program brings together 40 inner-city youngsters and 30 PA student musicians to study music, as well as life's possibilities.

"What the Lawrence children do here will have a profound effect on their lives," says Thomas. "First, they're taking up an instrument and learning the language of music from Andover student tutors. But just as important is the drive from their school to PA. It gives them a vision of where they might go and who they might be."

Each fall, Thomas visits the Lawrence school and talks to third-graders about the program. The school sends a letter home to parents, explaining the necessary commitment and travel. There is always enormous interest, even though students must agree to attend every Wednesday throughout the school year and to practice regularly.

At the end of fall and winter terms, performance workshops are held, followed by a formal recital for parents and friends at the end of the school year. "These punctuate their work in an important way and motivate

them," says Thomas. The mentoring relationship that develops between the children and their tutors is the key to the program's success.

Ortiz is a 17-year-old musician from Haverhill. He is a senior at Phillips Academy whose parents are from Lima, Peru. He studies piano, violin, and composition at the New England Conservatory Prep School in Boston. He has won several piano competitions, appeared on the *From The Top* radio show in Jordan Hall, and has performed as a soloist with the New England Philharmonic and with the Phillips Academy Chamber Orchestra. He plans to go to a conservatory next year to study piano and theory.

The concert will be held Wednesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. in the Cochran Chapel on the Phillips Academy campus at 189 Main St.

Donations are accepted at the door. (Suggested admission is \$10). For further information, contact the Phillips Academy Music Department at 978-749-4263; or call Liz Rosario from the Lawrence Family Development Charter School at 978-689-9863.

'How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying' to be performed at Merrimack College

The Merrimack College student theatrical group the "On-Stagers" will perform the live stage production "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" for three nights only, beginning tonight, Thursday, April 14 through Saturday, April 16.

The production is a satire on big business and follows the rise of I. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a little handbook called "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" to climb the corporate ladder. Finch goes from window washer to high-powered executive where he experiences familiar office issues such as becoming a "company man," the boss' whiny nephew, the office party, backstabbing co-workers, caffeine addiction, and true love.

Performances will be held Thursday, April 14 at 8 p.m.; Friday, April 15 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, April 16 at 2 and 8 p.m.

Shows are at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover.

Tickets cost \$5 for students and seniors; \$10 for adults. All seating is general admission. Tickets and information are available by calling the Rogers Center box office at 978-837-5355 or by e-mailing Sean.Kelso@merrimack.edu.

Meetings/Activities

Public skating, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:30-11:50 a.m., additional Friday 7:30-8:50 p.m., Sundays 1:30-2:50 p.m., \$3 admission, rental skates available, Chelmsford Forum, Brick Kiln Road, North Billerica; 978-670-3700 or fmcarenas.com.

Adult English classes, sponsored by the Asian Center of the Merrimack Valley Inc., 3-month program of classes on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, 9-11 a.m., preschool available for children ages 3 to 5 with parents enrolled in classes; 978-683-7316.

New England Classical Singers, under artistic director David Hodgkins, rehearsals are held at South School in Andover; 978-474-6090 or www.newenglandclassical.org.

American Legion Andover Post 8, second Wednesday of the month, September to June, 7 p.m., Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlett St.; Ted Witman 978-683-9988.

Amnesty International, Merrimack Valley Chapter, meets second Monday of the month, McQuade Library, Merrimack College, 7:30 p.m.; Leslie 978-475-6960.

Andover Great Books Group, meets second and fourth Tuesdays, discusses book of the week, activity room, Memorial Hall Library, 7:30-9 p.m.; Jean McGreehan 603-667-9610.

Observe heavenly bodies

Stargazing, sun-gazing, and fine-tuning one's observing instrument is a combination no astronomy junkie can refuse!

Two events at Merrimack College offer the opportunity to celebrate the sky above Andover while working with seasoned star enthusiasts on getting a telescope in proper working order.

Astronomy Day 2005, Saturday, April 16 (Free/open to public)

Members of the North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club will be at Merrimack College from 2 to 5 p.m. for solar observing. For the night sky, there will be star observing from 8 to 10 p.m.

Russell Pinizzotto, dean of faculty of science and engineering at Merrimack, will conduct an unaided-eye observing session of stars and constellations at 8 p.m. Telescopes will be available on campus and the Merrimack College Observatory will be open to the public for this event.

"This is a great time to stop by and see Jupiter and Saturn, as well as a number of deep sky objects," organizers said.

Telescope Clinic, Tuesday, April 26 (Free/open to public)

Technicians from the North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club will be available in the Sakowich Center on the Merrimack campus starting at 6:30 p.m. to help anyone who has questions about the set-up, operation, or maintenance of their telescope. This event is designed for newcomers as well as experienced observers. This event is open to the public. NSAAC can be contacted ahead of time with inquiries at telescopeclinic@nsaac.org.

The instruments will be worked on indoors and then are taken outside to observe the night sky once it gets dark.

Free stargazing

There is free stargazing every Wednesday night at the Mendel Observatory at Merrimack College. The observatory, located in the Mendel Science Center on the Merrimack campus, is staffed by knowledgeable volunteers from the North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club and houses two telescopes: one 20-inch and one 8-inch, and a number of electronic imaging systems. (The observatory line for details and weather is 978-837-5011.)

For more information, the public can call 978-837-5335 or send an e-mail to debra.simone@merrimack.edu. For information on the Mendel Observatory at Merrimack College, visit www.merrimack.edu/generator.php?id=1122.

FOR THE KID IN YOU

Newspapers in Education

Take me out to the ball game

"Take me out to the ball game,
Take me out with the crowd.
Buy me some peanuts and cracker jack,
I don't care if I never get back.
Let me root, root, root for the home team,
If they don't win it's a shame.
For it's one, two, three strikes,
You're out
At the old ball game."

By Jack Norworth and
Albert Von Tilzer 1908

Yes, it's time for hot dogs, popcorn, sunflower seeds and the sound of a bat cracking against a baseball.

The Kid investigated the history of America's favorite pastime, baseball.

Here's what the Kid learned.

Baseball started in the United States with a distinctive British accent. Early English settlers played "rounders." In this game, players hit a ball with a bat and ran around three four-foot stakes that were driven into the ground.

Runners were out when the fielders threw the ball and hit or "plugged" the runner. Players caught the ball bare-handed and used flat-sided cricket bats. Players had to be tough to withstand the game.

Players today still need to be in good physical shape to play. But times have changed and so has the game called baseball. The equipment has also improved.

The Base. Early players were often hurt when they ran into the stakes. The stakes were replaced by flat rocks - not much better. Rocks were ditched in favor of a cloth bag filled with sand, similar to today's bases.

The Ball. The baseball is about 9" around and weighs about 5 ounces. The cork center is covered in rubber, then wrapped in cotton and wool yarn. Original balls were covered in horsehide. Now, cowhide leather is used.

The Bat. Round bats were introduced to baseball in 1862. That makes it harder to hit the ball straight. Bats today are made of wood or aluminum. Youth through college players use both types of bats, but the pros use only traditional wooden bats.

The Glove. Players started using gloves to soften the sting of the ball in 1875. Modern leather gloves are well padded.

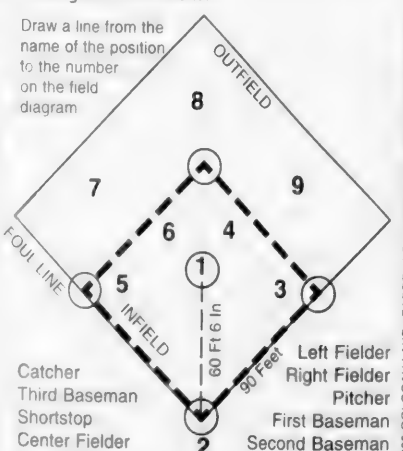
Today, baseball is played around the world by people of all ages.

The first professional team was the Cincinnati Red Stockings, founded in 1869. Today, the Cincinnati Reds are one of 30 Major League Baseball teams.

Minor league and college teams play across the country. There are amateur teams for players of all ages. Young people play baseball starting at preschool age.

Baseball became an official Olympic sport in 1992. Cuba won its third gold medal at the 2004 games in Athens.

Draw a line from the name of the position to the number on the field diagram



Newspaper search

Search the newspaper for pictures of baseball players

Find a story or chart about a baseball or softball game in your newspaper. See if you can answer these questions based on the story.

Who pitched the game?

Who received the most hits?

What was the name of the winning team?

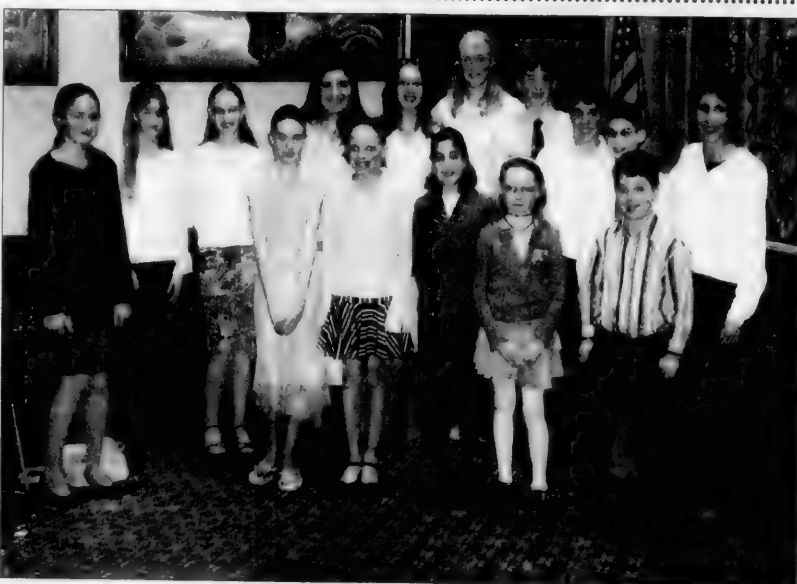
What was the final score?

How many innings did they play?

Did the game go into extra innings?



Concert pianist Claudia A. Keyian, director of the children's choir at Universalist-Unitarian Church in Newburyport, will perform at Merrimack Valley Armenians take part in a 90th year genocide observance. The commemorative event will take place Sunday, April 17, at 3 p.m. at North Andover High School, 430 Osgood St., located off Route 125, sponsored by the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Committee of Merrimack Valley. Reception follows. There is no admission charge; the public is invited.



Piano students of Jody Brickman performed in a spring recital on Sunday, April 3, at Memorial Hall Library. From left are: (back row) Hadley Green, Lindsay Fague, Julie Helmers, Theodora Givens, Kristina Fuerst, Heather Arvidson, Tommy Fuerst, Harrison Ganem, Christopher Goodwin and Jody Brickman (teacher). Front row: Allie Hung, Sarah Crockett, Ani Bilizarian, Julia Ganley, Max Novick. Not in the photo is Elizabeth Kelly, who also performed.

Sports

AHS ROUNDUP

Here's the pitch...

Baseball and softball teams are off to a strong start

By Rick Harrison

The Andover High varsity baseball team opened the season in the best possible way, winning its first three games by progressively larger margins while outscoring the opposition by a combined 32-10.

After a 6-2 victory over Revere, the locals swept to the Wakefield Invitational Tournament championship with a pair of lopsided romps over host Wakefield, 14-6, and Beverly, 12-2.

"The first two games were almost like scrimmages because we hadn't been out on the field," said AHS head coach Ken Maglio. "We learned a lot in those wins over Revere and Wakefield."

"Defensively we've started off very strong. We're also hitting the ball well - which is a surprise because we didn't get many swings outdoors before the opener."

The pitching has been sharp with solid performances by Dan Godefroi, Myke Fortier, Craig Lanciani and relievers Peter Burke, Tom White and Kevin Calabro.

Huge lacrosse win

The AHS boys lacrosse team pulled off one of the biggest victories in the six-year history of the program when it stunned visiting Lincoln-Sudbury, 5-4, in a Merrimack Valley/Dual County League crossover game Tuesday at the Shawsheen field.

The locals had not beaten L-S before, with the losses including a 12-3 setback last May.

Perennial power Lincoln-Sudbury, which has won several state titles over the years, has one of the oldest lax programs in Massachusetts.

"It was a great win," said Golden Warriors' head coach Wayne Puglisi. "For us, it's hard to top beating North Andover. But this one rates right up there."

Andover broke its jinx against North Andover last spring, whipping the Scarlet Knights 16-7 after five straight losses (three by one goal).

The locals had dropped five in a row to Lincoln-Sudbury as well.

"It's a terrific win for Andover and for our whole league (MVC)," said Billerica coach and former Indians' standout player Chris Burns when he heard the score. "It helps legitimize our conference. We always want to beat teams like L-S and Concord-Carlisle that have been around and dominated for so long."

BASEBALL

The Merrimack Valley Conference schedule begins tomorrow (Friday) with a home game at Aumais Park against MVC 2 crossover rival Billerica (3:30 p.m.).

The Indians are 1-1 to date, splitting a pair of non-league games against Concord-Carlisle (1-0 win) and Waltham (11-4 loss).

Next week AHS will punctuate spring vacation with MVC games Wednesday at home versus Tewksbury (11 a.m.) and Friday at Chelmsford (2 p.m.).

Andover 6

Revere 2

The regular season couldn't have started more auspiciously, as Dan Godefroi and Peter Burke combined for a three-hitter on the mound and the Golden Warriors put together a trio of two-run innings to trim their visiting non-league foe at Peter Aumais Park.

Sophomore lefty Godefroi (1-0) worked the first 4 2/3 innings, allowing two hits while fanning eight and walking three.

He carried a no-hitter into the fifth before yielding two safeties and getting nicked for two runs.

"Danny had thrown 77 pitches when we took him out of the game," said coach Maglio. "His arm was a little tired which was understandable. It was the first time this spring we were on the field and throwing outdoors off a mound."

"He was impressive. He's bigger and stronger than last year, about six-feet and 180 pounds, and he's throwing harder," said Maglio. "Best of all - Danny's only a sophomore."

Burke mopped up with 2 1/3 innings of one-hit, shutout relief, fanning two and walking one

to earn the save.

In the first inning of the season, the Golden Warriors struck for two runs on doubles by leadoff batter Matt Iorio, Paul Malaguti (RBI) and Matt Hogan (two-out RBI).

Iorio's two-bagger went to right field, Malaguti's to left and Hogan's to center as the locals sprayed the ball all over.

Andover made it 4-0 in the bottom of the third as Iorio singled to left, Godefroi ripped a one-out single to right, Matt Hennessy singled to right for a run and Hogan hoisted a sac-fly to left.

After the Patriots notched their only runs in the fifth, AHS countered with two of its own in the bottom of the frame.

Matt Hennessy and Hogan walked, Andrew Hennessy beat out a sacrifice bunt to load the bases, and junior Greg Carroll lashed a two-run single to center.

Iorio finished 2-for-4 and scored twice, while catcher Joe Gil was a defensive standout as he handled several balls in the dirt.

WAKEFIELD TOURNAMENT

SEMIFINAL

Andover 14

Wakefield 6

The Golden Warriors pounded out 20 hits, 19 singles including four each by 3-4 batters Dan Godefroi and Matt Hennessy, on the way to this tourney romp at Walsh Field in Wakefield.

Andover, designated home team by a coin flip, scored in every inning with four runs in the first and two in each of the next five frames.

Pitchers Craig Lanciani (1-0), Tom White and Kevin Calabro combined for a four-hitter, seven strikeouts and six walks.

Starter Lanciani yielded only one hit over the first four frames. White worked two middle innings and sophomore lefthander Calabro tossed a hitless and scoreless seventh.

Walks to Matt Iorio and Paul Malaguti, along with an infield hit by Godefroi, loaded the bases with no outs in the bottom of the first. Matt Hennessy ripped a two-run single to center and Greg Carroll added a two-out RBI safety to right.

Tourney host Wakefield scored three runs in the second, trimming its deficit to 4-3, but the locals began their string of two-run innings on consecutive one-out singles by Malaguti, Godefroi (infield), Matt Hennessy and Hogan (two RBI).

In the third Carroll singled to left, Matt Furness slugged an RBI double to left and Godefroi lined an RBI single up the middle.

The winners made it 10-3 in the fourth after Hogan and Andrew Hennessy walked, Carroll reached on an error and Mike Lattari laced a bases-loaded, pinch-hit two-run single to left.

After Wakefield scored three in the fifth, AHS retaliated in the home half when Malaguti singled, Matt Hennessy clouted a long RBI triple to the fence in right-center and Hogan

spanked an RBI single to center.

The final two runs came in the sixth as Malaguti walked and successive singles were slapped by Godefroi, Matt Hennessy (RBI) and Hogan (RBI).

Hennessy added four RBI to his four hits, while Godefroi had two and Hogan went 3-for-4 with three ribbies.

Malaguti was 2-for-2, with three runs scored, and Carroll contributed two hits, two runs and an RBI.

Furness had two safeties and Mike Muccio delivered a single.

Leftfielder Matt Hennessy made the defensive play of the game, ending the Wakefield fifth with a diving catch of a long foul ball.

Wakefield had already scored three times, closing the gap to 10-6, and had the bases loaded with the tying run at the plate before the grab.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Andover 12

Beverly 2

The tourney champs overcame an early 2-0 deficit, and broke open a close game with four runs in the top of the sixth and five more in the seventh.

Winning pitcher Myke Fortier (1-0) worked six innings of six-hit ball, striking out six and yielding only one earned run. Three of the Beverly safeties were infield singles.

Peter Burke mopped up with a 1-2-3 seventh and struck out two of the three batters he faced.

After the Panthers nicked Fortier for solo runs in the first and second, AHS began its comeback with a run in the third when No. 9 hitter Matt Furness belted a leadoff triple to center and scored on a single to right by Matt Iorio.

With one out in the fifth, Joe Gil walked, Furness singled to left and Paul Malaguti put the Golden Warriors ahead with a two-out, two-run double to right.

Furness highlighted the four-run sixth with a two-run triple, and he scored on a sac-fly by Iorio.

Andrew Hennessy and Greg Carroll also ripped back-to-back doubles in the inning.

Andover batted around in the seventh, which started with Dan Godefroi hit by a pitch before consecutive walks to Matt Hennessy and Matt Hogan loaded the bases.

Successive run-scoring singles were then lashed by Andrew Hennessy, Carroll and pinch-hitter Mike Lattari.

Furness led the 10-hit attack with 3-for-3, including two triples, three RBI and three runs scored.

Carroll and Andrew Hennessy contributed two safeties each.

Defensively, the keystone combo of second baseman Iorio and shortstop Malaguti combined for five assists.



Caitlin Carpentier pitched as the Golden Warriors hosted Everett.

SOFTBALL

Showing no ill effects from right shoulder surgery in the off-season, senior Capt. Caitlin Carpentier opened the 2005 campaign with a superb pitching performance as the Andover High varsity softball team whitewashed visiting non-league foe Everett, 7-0.

Carpentier scattered five Crimson Tide singles, two of them infield squibbers, struck out six and didn't walk a batter. She also escaped a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the top of the sixth to preserve the shutout.

"Caitlin is still not 100 percent - and we were fully prepared not to have her go the distance against Everett," said coach Stephanie Ragucci.

"But it's obvious the shoulder feels better than it did - even last week - and with this performance Caitlin's confidence is back and she feels more comfortable."

Carpentier followed the Everett gem with another solid outing against Tewksbury three days later, yielding just four hits and one earned run as the locals dropped a 2-0 decision to host TMHS in a non-league game between Merrimack Valley Conference rivals.

Because it was unseasonably cold that day Carpentier had some stiffness in the arm this past Tuesday.

That meant sophomore Katie Anderson was likely to get the starting nod in yesterday's game against North Reading.

Schedule

AHS hosted North Reading in a non-leaguer yesterday (Wednesday), after *Townsmen* presstime, and tomorrow afternoon the locals launch their Merrimack Valley Conference schedule by hosting Methuen (3:30 p.m.).

Andover 7

Everett 0

The Lady Warriors broke the ice quickly when leadoff batter Maria Nasta belted a long homer to center field in the bottom of the first.

AHS then ripped the game open with four runs in the fourth and two in the fifth.

"We had the typical first-game nerves and jitters," said coach Ragucci. "But, as long as you keep them under control, jitters can be a good thing. They keep the players alert and fully into the game."

"We had four kids who had never played a varsity inning before. After a scheduled Play-Day was rained out we were limited to just one pre-season (tn) scrimmage - indoors in the field house against Peabody and North Reading," reported Ragucci.

"But we still came out strong and made all the plays. The infield defense was solid behind Caitlin - nothing spectacular but we didn't commit an error."

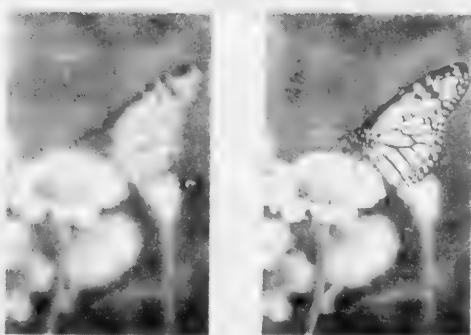
Clinging to the 1-0 lead in the fourth, courtesy of Nasta's solo blast, Andover gained some breathing room after loading the bases on an infield error, mishandled sacrifice bunt and fielder's choice.

Continued on page 20



Head Coach Stephanie Ragucci (center) is all smiles after Andover beat Everett in the Warriors' home opener.

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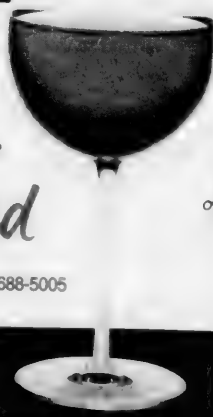
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AHS ROUNDUP

SOFTBALL

Continued from page 19

Junior Sydney Layne then singled sharply to center, chasing home Emily Cummings and sophomore All Navarro.

Nasta lofted a sac-fly to rescue Maggie Hanlon, and Layne eventually crossed when Summer Key was safe on Everett's third miscue of the inning.

In the fifth, sophomore Tamar Brady singled to center and Cummings dropped a base hit down the right field line.

Both runners advanced on Navarro's infield

out, and Brady beat the throw home on pinch-hitter Alyssa Lau's infield grounder. Layne's ground ball to first plated Cummings with the final run and gave the varsity newcomer three RBI in her debut.

After Everett loaded the bases with one out in the sixth, Carpentier retired the next two hitters on a pop fly to the mound and groundout to second baseman Nasta.

Key, Carpentier and sophomore catcher Becky Cairns contributed a single each for the Lady Warriors.

Tewksbury 2

Andover 0

The Andover bats were quiet as Tewksbury, which always seems to give the locals trouble, registered the shutout victory at Memorial Field.

TMHS senior hurler Julie Carlino was almost perfect, outduelling Caitlin Carpentier by authoring a complete-game one-hit shutout with 11 strikeouts and no walks.

Carpentier scattered four singles, fanned three and issued one walk.

Sydney Layne provided the only AHS safety to break up the no-hit bid, lacing a clean single to right field in the top of the fifth.

Tewksbury snapped a scoreless tie with solo runs in the fifth and sixth innings.

In the fifth Christie Costello singled, pinchrunner C.C. Gaynor stole second, advanced to third on a bunt and scored the winning run on Dina Ferreiro's fielder's choice grounder to the mound.

"Caitlin (Carpentier) played it right," said Ragucci. "She looked the runner back to third before throwing to first to retire the batter. But as she released the ball the runner (Gaynor) broke for home and her speed beat the throw to the plate. Nothing you can do about that."

Liz Mucica added the insurance when she crossed on an infield groundout by Sherin Elliott in the sixth.

"Once again we played well defensively," said Ragucci. "We made a couple errors but they weren't costly."

Centerfielder Emily Cummings ended the Tewksbury fourth by throwing out a runner at the plate trying to score from second base on a single.

Third baseman Maggie Hanlon also nailed a TMHS runner at home when she broke from third on an infield grounder.

Carpentier did a good job on (Danielle) Delonte, holding the scholarship catcher and TMHS No. 3 hitter to a scratch single in three at-bats.

"She's probably the best catcher in the state," said Ragucci. "And capable of hitting the ball to Guatemala."

"Tewksbury is an excellent team - and should be with the entire starting infield, catcher and top two pitchers (Mucica, Carlino) back from last year."

BOYS LACROSSE

The 5-4 win over Lincoln-Sudbury was achieved on the strength of a four-goal third quarter, which wiped out a 2-1 Andover halftime deficit.

The victory came on the heels of a disappointing 13-8 loss to Chelmsford four days earlier, the split leaving the Golden Warriors at 2-1 overall.

Schedule

Puglisi's crew returns to action tomorrow

(Friday) afternoon when it hosts Haverhill in a Merrimack Valley Conference game at the Shawshien field (4 p.m.).

The much-anticipated annual non-league showdown with North Andover kicks off school vacation week next Monday night under the lights at the NA field (7 p.m.).

After playing three of its first four games at home, AHS has nine of its next 12 on the road.

Andover 5
Lincoln-Sudbury 4

"We worked very hard preparing for this game," said coach Puglisi. "This win was no fluke. The kids earned it."

The locals erupted for four goals in just over four minutes late in the third quarter, including three just 50 seconds apart, as they handed L-S its first loss of the young season.

Junior midfielder Buddy Famham netted the lone Andover goal of the first half, and L-S clung to its 2-1 lead until junior attackman Mike LaMagna tied it with 6:15 to play in the pivotal third period.

Famham gave the Golden Warriors the lead with under three minutes left in the stanza, and senior midfielder Eric Hanson made it 4-2 just 26 seconds later.

Junior attack A.J. Drivas notched the eventual winning goal 24 seconds after Hanson connected.

Lincoln-Sudbury regrouped in the fourth quarter - but only netted two goals. The last L-S tally came with 51 seconds left in regulation and caused some anxious moments for Andover.

"Zach Gostanian was amazing in net," said coach Puglisi. "He made some unbelievable saves at key times."

"This team performance was so important - especially after the Chelmsford game which left us all pretty frustrated."

"We were much better in transition today," said Puglisi. "We hustled after ground balls, kept the pressure on their defense and had great looks at the net."

"We also had shots hit the post six or seven times. The bounces didn't go our way."

Famham added two assists and LaMagna one, while Gostanian finished with 12 saves.

Puglisi also lauded the defensive play of Capt. John Fox.

"It's hard to single anyone out in this game. They all played so well," said Puglisi.

Chelmsford 13
Andover 8

Although the visiting Lions are a good team - Andover was out of sync in this MVC game at the Shawshien field.

Pocketing two goals each for the Golden Warriors were Buddy Famham, Eric Hanson, senior midfielder Luke Bryden and Mike LaMagna.

"Bryden had one of his best games on offense. He tried to carry us," said coach Puglisi. Famham also handed out three assists and A.J. Drivas one.

Chelmsford (3-0) has a key early-season game tomorrow afternoon against likewise-undefeated Billerica (3-0).

Last year Andover, Chelmsford and Billerica finished as MVC tri-champions.

GIRLS LACROSSE

The Andover High girls varsity lacrosse team made it look easy with season-opening non-league victories over Lexington, 14-5, and

BASEBALL

ANDOVER 6, REVERE 2

at Peter Aumalis Park, Andover

Revere — Bradford of 2-0-0, Ferrante dh 3-0-0, Flaherty c 3-0-0, Bagnola ss 3-0-0, Mastropietro 1b p 0-1-0, Hartman lf 3-1-1, Cassia rf 3-0-0, Addressa p 3-0-1, Henson 3b 3-0-1, Lyons 2b 0-0-0. Totals: 23-2-3.

Andover — Matt Iorio 2b 4-2-2, Paul Malaguti ss 3-1-1, Dan Godefroi p-rf 3-1-1, Matt Hennessy dh 3-1-1, Matt Hogan 1b 1-1-1, Andrew Hennessy lf 2-0-1, Matt Furness rf 2-0-0, Peter Burke p 1-0-0, Greg Carroll 3b 2-0-1, Kevin Calabro of 3-0-0, Joe Gil c 0-0-0. Totals: 24-6-8.

Revere 000 020 0 — 2
Andover 202 020 x — 6

RBI: A. Hogan 2, Carroll 2, Malaguti 1, M. Hennessy 1, R. Henson 1. 2B: Iorio, Malaguti, Hogan. SF: Hogan. WP: Dan Godefroi (1-0) 4.2ip 2h 2r 2er 3bb 8k. Save: Peter Burke (1) 2.1ip 1h 0r 1bb 2k. Records: Andover 1-0, Revere 0-1.

ANDOVER 14, WAKEFIELD 6

Wakefield Tournament

Semifinal Round

at Walsh Field, Wakefield

Wakefield — Crusco of 3-1-2, Worden ss 3-1-1, Simmons p 2-0-0, Ditones p 1-1-1, Detorre p 1-0-0, Greer c 2-0-0, Angelo rf 3-1-0, Smeglia 1b 4-1-1, Sparks 2b 2-1-0, Taylor lf 2-0-0, Leahy 3b 3-0-0. Totals: 28-6-5.

Andover — Matt Iorio 2b 4-1-0, Paul Malaguti ss 2-3-2, Dan Godefroi dh 5-3-4, Matt Hennessy lf 5-2-4, Matt Hogan 1b 4-1-3, Andrew Hennessy rf 4-1-1, Greg Carroll 3b 4-2-2, Mike Muccio c 2-0-1, Joe Gil c 1-0-0, Mike Lattan ph 1-0-1, Matt Furness of 3-3-3, Myke Fortier 1-0-0, Craig Lanciani p 0-0-0, Tom White p 0-0-0, Kevin Calabro p 0-0-0. Totals: 36-14-20.

Wakefield 030 030 0 — 6
Andover 422 222 x — 14

RBI: A. M. Hennessy 4, Hogan 4, Godefroi 2, Lattan 2, Carroll 1, Furness 1, W. Crusco 2, Ditones 2, Greer 1. 2B: Furness. 3B: M. Hennessy, Ditones. WP: Craig Lanciani (1-0) 4ip 1h 3r 3er 3bb 2k. Relief: Tom White 2ip 3h 3r 3er 1bb 3k; Kevin Calabro 1ip 0h 0r 2bb 2k. Records: Andover 2-0, Wakefield 0-1.

ANDOVER 12, BEVERLY 2

Wakefield Tournament

Championship Game

at Walsh Field, Wakefield

Andover — Matt Iorio 2b 3-0-1, Mike Muccio ph 0-0-0, Paul Malaguti ss 4-0-1, Dan Godefroi 2-1-0, Matt Hennessy dh 3-1-0, Matt Hogan 1b 3-1-0, Andrew Hennessy lf 4-2-2, Greg Carroll 3b 3-2-2, Joe Gil c 2-0-0, Mike Lattan ph 1-0-1, Matt Furness of 3-3-3, Kevin Calabro ph 1-0-0, Myke Fortier p 0-0-0, Peter Burke p 0-0-0. Totals: 29-12-10.

Beverly — Marquart rf 3-0-1, Trout of 2-0-1, Adams of 1-0-0, Fullerton ss 3-1-0, Hutchinson ph 1-0-0, Filadaro 1b 2-0-2, Gomez p-ss 3-0-0, Sullivan c 3-0-1, Sakamoto 3b 1-0-0, Negrotti lf 3-0-1, Silvio lf 0-0-0, Ackerman 2b 3-0-0. Totals: 25-2-6.

Andover 001 024 5 — 12
Beverly 110 000 0 — 2

RBI: A. Furness 3, Carroll 2, M. Hennessy 2, Malaguti 2, Lattan 1, Iorio 1, Hogan 1, B. Filadaro 1, Negrotti 1. 2B: A. Hennessy, Malaguti, Carroll. 3B: Furness 2. SF: Iorio. HBP: Malaguti, Godefroi. Errors: Andover 1, Beverly 2. DP: Beverly 1. LOB: Andover 6, Beverly 6. WP: Myke Fortier (1-0) 6ip 6h 2r 1er 3bb 6k. Relief: Peter Burke 1ip 0h 0r 0bb 2k. Records: Andover 3-0, Beverly 1-1.

SOFTBALL

ANDOVER 7, EVERETT 0

at Andover High

Everett — Caruso lf 3-0-0, Olivero rf 3-0-3, Burley p 3-0-0, McGrath c 3-0-0, Bookman ss 3-0-0, Guanci of 3-0-0, D'Onofrio 3b 3-0-0, Meringer 1b 2-0-1, Sachetta 2b 2-0-1. Totals: 25-0-5.

Andover — Maria Nasta 2b 4-1-1, Summer Key 1b 4-0-1, Caitlin Carpentier p 3-0-1, Becky Cairns c 4-0-1, Tamar Brady lf 4-1-1, Emily Cummings of 3-2-1, Allie Navarro ss 2-1-0, Maggie Hanlon 3b 1-1-0, Alyssa Lau ph 1-0-0, Sydney Layne rf 3-1-1. Totals: 29-7-7.

Everett 000 000 0 — 0
Andover 100 420 x — 7

RBI: A. Layne 3, Nasta 2, Lau 1. HR: Nasta (1). SF: Nasta. WP: Caitlin Carpentier (1-0) 7ip 5h 0r 0bb 6k. LP: Kristen Burley (0-1) 6ip 7h 3er 2bb 6k. Records: Andover 1-0, Everett 0-1.

TEWKSBURY 2, ANDOVER 0

at Memorial Field, Tewksbury

Andover — Maria Nasta 2b 3-0-0, Summer Key 1b 3-0-0, Caitlin Carpentier p 3-0-0, Becky Cairns c 3-0-0, Emily Cummings of 3-0-0, Tamar Brady lf 3-0-0, Sydney Layne rf 2-0-1, Maggie Hanlon 3b 2-0-0, Allie Navarro ss 2-0-0. Totals: 24-0-1.

Tewksbury — Dina Ferreiro 1b 3-0-0, Alex Sacco 2b 2-0-0, Danielle Delonte c 3-0-1, Jelisa Rauding pr 0-0-0, Liz Mucica dp 2-1-1, Alicia Rocco lf 3-0-1, Sherin Elliott of 3-0-0, Erica Matranga ss 2-0-1, Christie Costello 3b 2-0-1, C.C. Gaynor pr 0-1-0, Michelle Coppa lf 1-0-0, Julie Carlino p 3-0-0. Totals: 21-2-4.

Andover 000 000 0 — 0
Tewksbury 000 011 x — 2

RBI: T. Ferreiro 1, Ferreiro 1. WP: Julie Carlino 7ip 1h 0r 0bb 11k. LP: Caitlin Carpentier (1-1) 6ip 4h 2r 1er 1bb 3k. Records: Andover 1-1, Tewksbury 2-0.

BOYS TENNIS

READING 3, ANDOVER 2

at Andover High

Singles
Dave Adams (A) def. Ian Salter, 6-1, 6-1.
Jeremy Hogan (A) def. Dave McGinty, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5.
Jeff Grossman (R) def. Seth Johnson, 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles
Ryan Hart & Dave McIsaac (R) def. Josh Caplan & Mike Zakin, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5.
Christoph Foster & Cam Salter (R) def. Seth Davis & Eric Krupic, 6-2, 6-3.
Records: Andover 1-1, Reading 1-0.

ANDOVER 5, LAWRENCE 0

at Lawrence

Singles
Seth Johnson (A) def. Jose Brenes, 3-6, 6-0, 6-2.
Steve Ochs (A) def. Charlie San, 6-0, 6-2.
Rustin Zarkar (A) def. Benjamin Payano, 6-0, 6-0.

Doubles
Julian Vastl & Seth Davidovits (A) def. Everton Brito & Christian Guzman, 6-0, 6-0.
Brian Hsieh & Jim Conway (A) def. Allan Gardin & Mike Lora, 6-0, 6-2.
Records: Andover 1-1, Lawrence 0-1.



Maria Nasta fields a ground ball.

Baseball sign-ups at
WMS tonight at 7

Registration for the Andover Pony League and American Legion summer baseball teams will be held tonight (Thursday) at 7 p.m. in the West Middle School cafeteria (Shawshien Road).

There is no registration fee but those players selected for one of the five summer teams at upcoming tryouts, whose dates will be announced later, will be charged a nominal fee.

All interested youngsters, regardless of whether or not they played on a Pony or Legion team last year, must register.

There are three Pony League travel teams, a 13-year-old squad and two 14-15 teams (Blue and Gold) that will compete in the Sonny Robbins Suburban League.

Beginning this year there will be two Legion teams, the regular Post 8 squad for 16-19 year-old players and the new "Junior Legion" for players 16-18 years (cannot be 19).

Players will be assigned to a team after tryouts are completed.

American Legion is a new program that has spread off nationally and in Massachusetts, and in Andover the team will replace the Southeast League team.

All summer teams will begin regular season games in mid-June and continue, depending on tournaments and playoffs, through late July or early August.

The Andover Post 8 Legion team is the reigning Massachusetts state champion (26th year), having won a first-ever title in 2004. The locals also finished third in the Southeast Regionals.

Joe Iarobino, Kevin Rourke and Keith Grant will return to coach the regular Post 8 Legion team.

Sean Hoffman is expected to coach the Junior Legion, Frank Mazza the Pony 13-year-olds and Ron Miranda the Pony Blue 14-15s. A coach is being sought for the field 14-15 squad.

Ipswich, 12-4.

Capt. Maggie Lamond achieved an impressive personal milestone in the lifelifter against Lexington, the senior attack netting the 100th goal of her outstanding AHS lac career.

Schedule

Andover launches its Merrimack Valley Conference schedule this afternoon (Thursday) at Chelmsford (4 p.m.), and travels to Framingham tomorrow for a huge 4 p.m. non-league test against the Flyers who reached the State Tournament championship game last spring before bowing to Winchester.

Andover 14

Lexington 5

Kate Nichols, Maggie Lamond and Rachel Fox combined for 11 goals as first-year head coach John McVeigh enjoyed a successful debut with this non-league romp at Lexington.

The Lady Warriors took a commanding 9-2 halftime lead and cruised.

"I liked our effort and enthusiasm," said McVeigh. "You can't ask for much more in a season opener."

"Our defense was excellent - especially in

the first half when we limited Lexington to very few shots.

"As the game went along our transition play got better and better," added McVeigh. "We used our team speed to good advantage."

Senior midfielder and Capt. Nichols had a big day with four goals and two assists, while Lamond contributed four goals, one assist and swift sophomore midfielder Fox had a hat trick and one assist.

Lamond's second goal of the game was No. 100.

Senior attackers Bryanna Casey and Jacqui Munro added a goal each, along with sophomore midfielder Kelsey Eriksen playing her first varsity game.

Sophomore middle Lindsay Hegarty and junior attack Kate Salois notched an assist apiece, while defensive standouts included juniors Kate Denison and Jessie Ragnio.

"Jessie Koffman did a tremendous job on the draws," said McVeigh. "It was the first time she had taken faceoffs in a game - and she won a large majority to help us control the ball."

Elissa Slovin and junior Leslie Barber played one half each in goal, Slovin finishing with eight

Continued on page 21

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AHS ROUNDUP

■ GIRLS LACROSSE

Continued from page 20

saves on 10 shots and Barber stopping four of seven.

"There is always room for improvement in all areas - and I expect us to get stronger with every game," said McVeigh.

Andover 12 Ipswich 4

Once again the Lady Warriors were in total control, establishing their dominance early on the way to a 7-1 halftime lead.

"The effort level was again consistently high," said coach McVeigh. "We forced a lot of turnovers and Ipswich was never able to get any flow to its game."

Rachel Fox led the locals' assault with four goals and Jacquie Munro pumped in three.

Kate Nichols had another big day with two goals and four assists, while Maggie Lamond pocketed one goal and also set up four.

Sophomore attack Briana Gross and Jessie Koffman potted a goal each, freshman midfielder Katelyn Caro passed out two assists and Lindsay Hegarty one.

The defense was again disruptive with strong efforts from juniors Ally Brown, Jessie Ragnio and Kate Denison.

Leslie Barber played the first half and Elissa Slovin the second half in net, both finishing with two saves.

BOYS TENNIS

The Andover High boys tennis team experienced both ends of the emotional spectrum while splitting its first two matches, dropping a highly-charged 3-2 non-league decision to Reading before registering a much more laid-back 5-0 win over Lawrence.

Schedule

Andover (1-1, 1-0 MVC) plays the second of six straight away matches tomorrow (Friday) afternoon against Central Catholic at the Merrimack College courts (3:30 p.m.).

The locals are then idle for 10 days, returning after spring vacation with a non-league match Monday, April 25 at perennial power St. John's Prep of Danvers (3:30).

Reading 3 Andover 2

In a season-opening pressure cooker played with the intensity of a tournament match, the Golden Warriors fell just short against visiting Middlesex League power Reading.

"It was terrific competition for this early in the year," said coach Wartman. "These are two well-matched teams. I was impressed with how focused our kids were, how hard they played and how well they played."

AHS won at first and second singles with freshman Dave Adams and junior Jeremy Hogan.

It ultimately came down to a brilliant first doubles battle that went three sets before the Reading duo of Ryan Hart and Dave McIsaac slipped past the veteran Andover tandem of Josh Caplan and Mike Zakin 7-5, 3-6, 7-5.

In his varsity debut Adams, her apparent to

Avi Lasser at No. 1, was very impressive in a 6-1, 6-1 straight-set romp over Rockets' standout Ian Salter.

It appeared to be the start of what should be a memorable four-year high school career for the talented Adams.

"Dave defeated a senior who was No. 2 singles on a very good Reading team (MIAA Tournament semifinalist) last year," said Wartman. "He was steady, came up to the net well and moved him (Salter) all over the court while controlling the match from the start."

Hogan had a tough battle at No. 2 before subduing Reading's Dave McGinty 7-5, 3-6, 7-5. "Jeremy played against an excellent ground-stroker," said Wartman. "There were a lot of long points."

Hogan fell behind 3-0 in the third set before winning seven of the next nine games.

"He settled down, didn't make many errors and really forced his opponent to earn every point," said Wartman.

Junior No. 3 singles Seth Johnson dropped a 6-4, 6-4 decision to the Rockets' Jeff Grossman. "Both are baseline players and that led to lengthy rallies on practically every point," said Wartman. "Their kid was just a little steadier."

There were a lot of duce games at second doubles where the Reading duo of Christoph Foster and Cam Salter pounded out a 6-2, 6-3 triumph over the AHS junior tandem of returning lettermen Seth Davidovits and Eric Krupnic.

"Their guys were just more solid on a lot of the big points," said Wartman.

The pivotal first doubles match took almost two hours and was the last to finish with the team score deadlocked, 2-2.

"It was clearly the match of the day," said Wartman. "These are two veteran doubles teams with four solid players, all of whom volley well at the net, return serve well and don't get rattled."

"A few key points went against our guys and that was the only real difference."

The Rockets also nipped Andover 3-2 last spring to hand the locals their only regular season loss.

Andover 5 Lawrence 0

Seth Johnson got his first shot at No. 1 singles, and responded with a come-from-behind 3-6, 6-0, 6-2 win over the Lancers' Jose Brenes.

"It was a good matchup of baseline players," said coach Wartman. "Seth started slowly, but took over the match when he got more aggressive and came to the net in the last two sets."

Sophomore Steve Ochs rolled 6-0, 6-2 at second singles and sophomore Rustin Zarkar, in his first varsity match, won 12 straight games in a 6-0, 6-0 blitz of Lawrence's Benjamin Payano at third singles.

The AHS first doubles tandem of juniors Julian Vastl and Seth Davidovits also whitewashed their opponents, blitzing Everton Brito and Christian Guzman 6-0, 6-0.

Senior Brian Hsieh teamed with Jim Conway, also seeing his first taste of varsity action, for a 6-0, 6-2 romp over Allan Gardii and Mike Lora at second doubles.

GIRLS TENNIS

The Andover High girls varsity tennis team opened its 2005 season yesterday (Wednesday), after *Townsmen* presstime, with a match at Lawrence.

The Lady Warriors didn't sit idle last week, however, staying sharp with a pair of scrimmage victories over hosts Lexington High and Phillips Academy.

In the 5-0 sweep of the Minutemaid, AHS dropped only three games in six singles sets as junior Hannah Zarkar rolled 6-0, 6-2, senior Capt. Christie Spang cruised 6-1, 6-0 and sophomore Caroline Koch dominated 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles sophomore JooHee Yoon and junior Meredith Levenson were 6-2, 6-2 victors while sophomore Rikki Sartor and Capt. Lindsay Davidson chalked up a 6-2, 6-3 decision.

"It was a good win for us even though it was only a scrimmage," said AHS coach Dave Hughes. "Lexington is usually a top three team in the Middlesex League and they have a lot of players back this year."

At Phillips, the Lady Warriors played 10 pro-set matches and came away with a 6-4 triumph. Coach Hughes used the PA match to get a look at several freshmen under the competitive gun for the first time.

Athena Lynch in singles, along with Hannah Hoerner and Rachel Wetmore in doubles, won their matches.

"We're optimistic and ready for the season to start," said Hughes. "We were fortunate the weather cooperated enough for us to get a couple of matches under our belt."

Schedule

AHS begins a string of five consecutive home matches tomorrow afternoon (Friday) when it hosts Central Catholic (3:30 p.m.).

After a 10-day spring vacation break the locals are back in action Monday, April 25 at the AHS courts against Notre Dame Academy of Tyngsboro (3:30).

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Bouncing back from its season-opening 2-0 thrashing at the hands of powerhouse Lawrence, the Andover High boys volleyball team pounded out consecutive 2-0 victories over visiting Merrimack Valley Conference rivals Methuen and Chelmsford.

Injury report

Senior outside hitter and varsity newcomer Pat Hughes suffered a dislocated shoulder in practice last week.

In a workout between the Lawrence and Methuen matches, Hughes tumbled to the floor and landed on his shoulder.

The arm was immediately placed in a sling, which was removed over the weekend, and he is expected to be sidelined at least until next week.

"They said a month at first - but Pat seems to think he'll be back sooner," said AHS head coach George Sullivan.

Schedule

AHS returned to action yesterday (Wednes-

day), after *Townsmen* presstime, at Billerica.

The locals host Central Catholic tomorrow evening at the Dunn Gym (5:30 p.m.), and travel to Dracut Monday afternoon for the first of three vacation-week matches.

Andover 2 Methuen 0

Junior middle hitter Jerry Mohan led the offense with eight kills as the Golden Warriors rolled to a 30-24, 30-19 sweep of visiting Methuen.

"We pulled things together much better than we had in the season opener against Lawrence (2-0 loss)," said coach Sullivan.

"We watched films of the Lawrence match, went over the mistakes and worked on them."

"I think we were a little cocky in the first game against Methuen - because we beat them at one of our Play Days," said Sullivan. "When they stayed close, it proved you can't take anything for granted and forced our guys to bear down harder in game two."

Mohan finished the match a team-best 18-for-20 hitting and added 2-for-4 serving.

Junior outside hitter Nick Assad contributed six kills and 10-for-13 hitting, while Chris James had kills on his first three hits and was 6-for-8 overall with four kills.

Capt. Sam Silverman went 5-for-5 hitting and 9-for-9 serving, with one ace, while junior setter Darren McRoy was 4-for-5 hitting and 8-for-10 serving with two kills and one ace.

Tyler Carroll had the locals' third ace while going 7-for-7 serving and 2-for-2 hitting.

Capt. Pardeep Thandi was a defensive stand-out, went 11-for-13 serving and 3-for-3 hitting.

Also playing well for AHS were junior outside hitter Alex Levine (three kills), junior setter Mike Gianopoulos (10-for-10 serving, 2-for-2 hitting), Matt Jacobs (4-for-8 hitting), junior Luke Bruno (3-for-5 hitting, one kill) and Alex Day (2-for-2 serving).

As a team Andover was 48-for-56 serving (86 percent), with three aces, and 64-for-90 hitting (71 percent) with 23 kills.

The Andover JV's dropped a 2-1 decision in the prelim. Methuen pounding out a 30-24, 28-30, 15-10 victory.

Playing well for AHS were Josh Bruno (six kills), Brian Black (four kills), Nate Casto (defense) and John Henry Heckendorn (defense).

Andover 2 Chelmsford 0

The Golden Warriors took the first game easily, 30-20, and battled back from an eight-point deficit to complete the sweep, 30-27, at the Dunn Gym.

"Chelmsford basically ran the show for most of the second game," said coach Sullivan. "We were down by eight at one point - but called a time out to calm everyone down."

"We began chipping away at the lead, point by point, and eventually caught them at 25-25."

AHS then went on a 5-2 run (13-5 down the stretch) to close out the match.

"Our timing was off during several stretches - but we got it back and that's when we took control," said Sullivan.

"Jerry Mohan was our main gun on offense and the defensive play of Pardeep (Thandi), Sam (Silverman) and Tyler (Carroll) was again solid."

Mohan finished with 10 kills and one ace, going 14-for-16 hitting and 5-for-5 serving. Chalking up two kills each were Darren McRoy (8-for-8 hitting), Chris James (7-for-11) and Luke Bryden (7-for-13).

Carroll was the serving leader, 15-for-15 with four aces, while Mike Gianopoulos went 9-for-9 with two aces.

Thandi was 10-for-11 serving, 2-for-2 hitting and Silverman 7-for-7 serving and 3-for-4 hitting.

Other top hitters were Alex Levine (14-for-18, one kill), Nick Assad (3-for-4, one kill) and Gianopoulos (3-for-3).

Matt Jacobs went 4-for-4 serving with one ace.

"We were almost flawless serving the ball, finishing 53-for-54 with eight aces," said Sullivan. "That's 98 percent accuracy."

Andover also went 62-for-80 hitting (78 percent) with 18 kills.

Coach Kayleen McNulty's AHS junior varsity slapped Chelmsford 2-0 in the prelim, winning the games 30-22 and 30-21.

Playing well for the victors were Greg James (five aces), Eddie Kim (three aces), Pat McGovern (defense) and the trio of Bryan Black, Josh Bruno and Kyle Butler who combined for 10 kills.

TRACK & FIELD

The Andover High boys and girls varsity track teams opened the dual-meet seasons with victories over Lowell in Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 action Tuesday afternoon at Lovely Field.

The AHS boys rolled to an 87-58 triumph, finishing first in nine events while sweeping the 110-meter high hurdles and winning both relays.

Capt. Chris Cole and Dave Cherallah were both individual double event winners.

Cole placed first in the 110 hurdles (15.4) and 300-meter intermediate hurdles (41.9).

Cherallah heaved the javelin 148'11" and uncoiled a 117'9" toss in the discus.

Also contributing victories for AHS were miler James Primes in 4:43.6, sprinter Jason Sheldon in the 200 meters (23.6) and pole vaulter Adam Greeley who cleared the bar at 11'6".

Greeley's performance in a difficult event was particularly impressive considering the adverse weather conditions (freezing cold).

The locals' 4x100 sprint relay flashed across in 46.3 seconds and the 4x400 foursome won in 3:48.5.

Schedule

Saturday morning the Andover girls will host the annual Tewksbury Invitational at Lovely Field, while the boys compete in the Haverhill Invitational at Haverhill Stadium (both 10 a.m.).

Next Wednesday both AHS squads will be at Cawley Memorial Stadium in Lowell for the Merrimack Valley Conference Relays.

A tri-meet against Dracut (boys only) and non-league crosstown rival Phillips Academy is set for April 26 at Lovely Field (3:30 p.m.).

The State Class A Relays are April 30 at Peabody High (9:30 a.m.).

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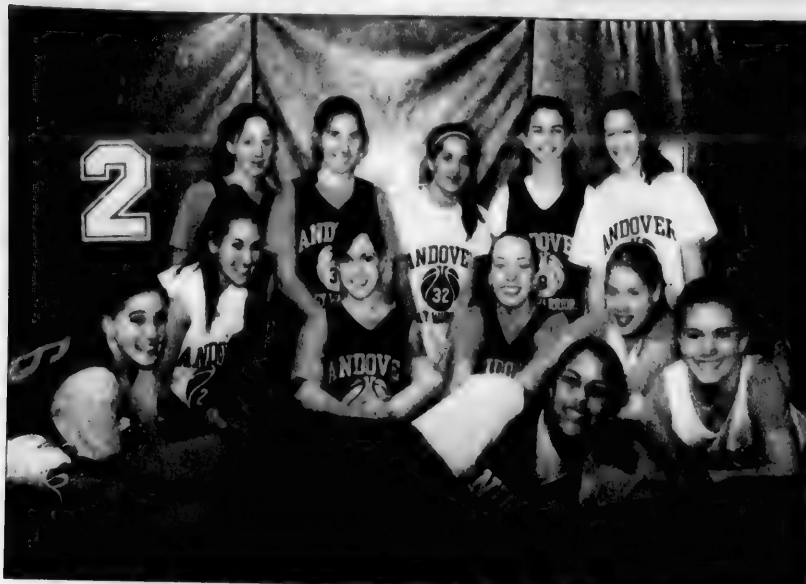
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LOCAL ATHLETES



This year the Andover girls' freshman basketball team finished its season 14-1. Their only loss was to archrival Central Catholic. The team played most of their season without its star player, Catherine LoMedico, who underwent reconstructive surgery on her knee. More newsworthy than their successful season, the team believes, was their accomplishment in raising over \$2,000 for the survivors of the Asian tsunami disaster. The girls spent one afternoon selling baked goods at the fieldhouse during the Church League basketball games. They also solicited pledges for a shoot-out competition held during a Saturday morning practice. All contributions were donated to Oxfam America on behalf of the team. The hardworking members of this team are: Allison DiSalvo, Kelly Driscoll, Julie Dugan, Amanda Fantini, April Fiorentino, Jen George, Kit Heinrich, Brittney Isenhardt, Catherine LoMedico, Courtney Petzold, Allie Umlah and Kayley Pettoruto.



Local ski racers represent Massachusetts at Gunstock — All racers who ski for the Bradford Buddy Werner Ski Team qualified to race in the Francis Piche Invitational Championship at Gunstock, N.H. Recently they participated in a training day and raced the giant slalom course the next day. The race featured top skiers from 12 eastern states. Skiers were also honored at the annual banquet with high point trophies. From left are: (front row) Cayley Christopher, Andover; Neal Fraser, Methuen; Jason Jean, Groveland; Dylan Taylor, Topsfield; Nicole Villaire, Haverhill; Erin Christopher, Andover. Second row: Sam Bensley, Newburyport; Eric Heath, Andover; Sara Heath, Andover. Third row: Head Coach Mike Girardi and Coach Jamie Quealey.



Peewee Minor Elites win state title — The beat goes on for the Peewee Minor Elites, who added another State Select title to their resume in Marlboro last month. Peter King's team played what he referred to as some of its best hockey of the season to again take home its third straight state crown. Participating in their third straight Massachusetts Tier I State Championship as the No. 1 seed is a difficult task in itself. But for these 11-year-olds to turn in the performance they did recently is simply unbelievable, he said. By the end of the championship game, the Warriors had scored 39 goals in the four-game weekend tournament, only giving up one. "It has been one great run for this team over the last three years," said King. "This is their third consecutive State Championship and their 66th consecutive win in the Massachusetts Player Development League. It's great to have an undefeated season but real special to have three of them strung together like this. This is just a real special team." From left are: (back row) Paul Russell (Andover), Alex King (Andover). Front row: Johnathan Daniels (Andover) and Colin Blackwell (North Andover).

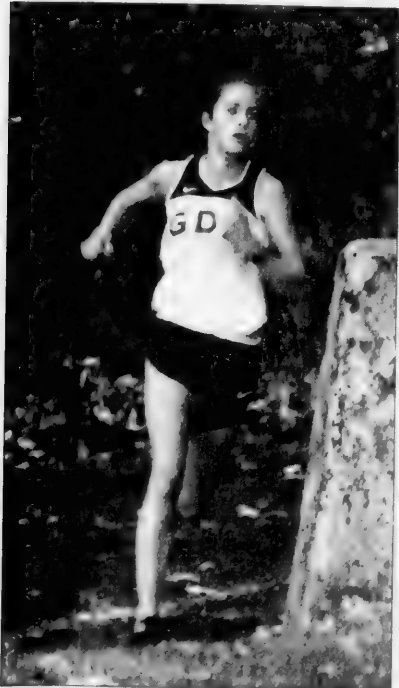


The Andover eighth-grade Independent Girls Travel Basketball Team captured the "A" division championship at the Winchester March Madness tournament. The team is pictured (above) with trophies in hand. From left are: (front row) Caitlin Burke, Shannon Muscatello, Abby Cook, Erin Woodbury and Rebecca Bendetson. Back row: Doug Cook, Michelle Calabro, Jesse Miller, Meghan Farquhar, Kate Blanford, Jess Morrow, Karen Woodbury. Not pictured: Barbara George.



The St. Augustine's A (Senior Boys 7th & 8th Grade) team was undefeated this season with a record of 8-0 to capture the town championship. The players' success is a tribute to the cohesive team approach, their coaches said, as all 11 players had a significant impact on the outcome of each game. They acknowledged Bob French, the league coordinator, "who not only puts in countless hours each week, but years of hard work to make this a successful league for the boys and girls of Andover." Pictured above are: (Back row) Coach Mark Tassinari, John Tassinari, John Hawk, David Keohane, Robin Lowe, Coach Guy Ehlbeck and League Coordinator Bob French. Front row: Brendan Crawford, Sean Ehlbeck, Matt Leledes, Adam Devine, Alex Dumitrescu and Josh Devine. Missing from photo is Kaelan Crawford.

Spencer Harkins of Andover finished seventh in the JIII New Hampshire State Ski Championships, earning him a position on the New Hampshire State Team. The event, held Feb. 27-28 at Mt. Sunapee, included giant slalom and slalom races. Spencer, an eighth grader at Pike School, skis for the Loon Race Team at Loon Mountain, N.H.



Ania Krzywicki from Andover, a junior at Governor Dummer Academy in Byfield, along with sophomore Keara Thomas from Haverhill and junior Caroline Turnbull from Wenham, was named to the "All Independent School" Cross-Country team. The GDA Girls Varsity Cross-Country team finished the season undefeated with 12 league wins. In addition, the team won both the ISL Championships and the New England Division II Championships. Krzywicki and Turnbull have been named co-captains for the 2005 Cross-Country season at GDA.

Danielle Johnson was honored by the Massachusetts Horsemen's Association as 2004 Year-end Champion in the Hunt Seat Equitation 12-14 Division. She and her horse, I Love You Daddy, also were 2004 year-end Reserve Champion in the national Marshall and Sterling League Charles Owen Children's Medal Division. Danielle just returned from competing on the Ocala, Fla. winter circuit where she was Champion in the Intermediate Equitation Division. She is looking forward to the 2005 show jumping season on her new horse, Saturn, a 5-year-old Dutch Warmblood, imported from the Netherlands last fall. Danielle, a freshman at Andover High School, trains with Olana Laffey of Evenstride Farm.

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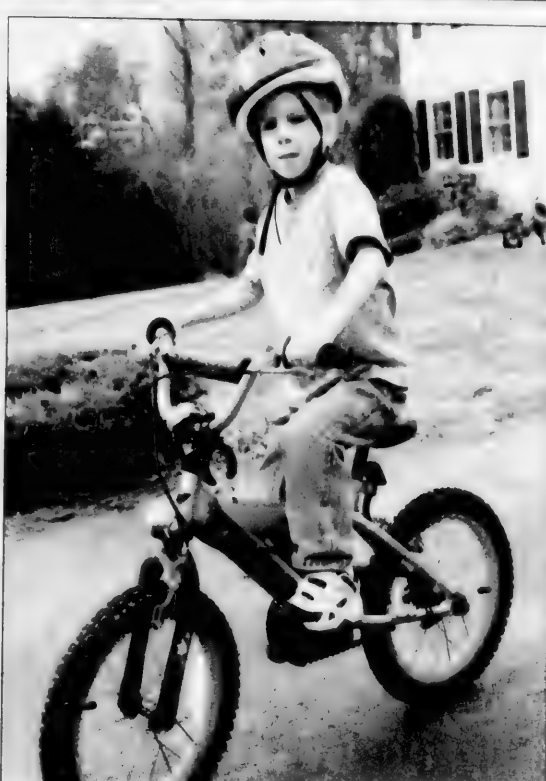


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Townspeople

Spring has sprung!



Clockwise, from upper left: Michelle Guy blows bubbles to Katie Lemons and Catherine Bravo. Justin Sonberg hops around outside last week, taking advantage of the spring weather that has finally arrived. Daniel Bailey rides his bike around his yard. Morgan Marini jumps to the next square as she plays hopscotch. The children live in the Greylarch Road neighborhood.

Photos by Tim Jean



Middle-school students at the Andover School of Montessori who worked on a quilt depicting aspects of slavery included, from left: Jazmine Santos, Brooke Moschetto and Maxwell Wheeler.

Stitching historical scenes

MIDDLE-SCHOOL students at the Andover School of Montessori last Thursday completed a handmade quilt as part of their comprehensive unit on slavery. Student Simon Dellea, 12, wrote this description of the project.

"After listening to Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt, Andover School of Montessori Middle School students started to discuss the quilt. We talked about how difficult it was for slaves to find fabric and supplies for quilting. We also discussed the different patterns and symbols used in

the Underground Railroad, which we had learned earlier in our trip to the Afro American museum in Boston.

"Then we discussed the different colors used for things like cotton fields and safehouses. We started a rough draft, and then another rough draft that actually connected with each others' trails and landmarks. Then, with given materials, we slowly but surely started quilting together our thought-up patches. After our individual patches were sewn together, we presented the quilt to the school."

TOWN TALK

Saying 'I do' slopeside

Walking under a ski-pole canopy and down the "aisle" are the just-married Paul and Meredith Bussiere (at right), who tied their knot slopeside, on the deck of a ski lodge at Bretton Woods.

Meredith Emery Bussiere is an Andover High physical education teacher, and both she and her new husband are part-time ski instructors. They planned to marry atop Bretton Woods and ski down to their reception at the lodge (see *Townsmen*, Jan. 6). However, Mother Nature had other plans as a snowstorm blew in for their March 12 wedding. The mountaintop wedding ceremony was changed to a slopeside service as a result.

"There was too much wind and no visibility, and it was not safe for my non-skiing guests to take the chairlift," said the new Mrs. Bussiere. "And it was great. I loved the ski poles as my aisle!"

— Judy Wakefield

They came; they saw; they spelled

One team wore wizard hats. Another wore plaid skirts and kilts. A member of a third team actually carried a live chicken. And in the end, nearly 100 adults competed in teams of four for the coveted title of Andover's best spellers last Friday night.

The event was the always spirited Andover Spelling Bee, which this year raised about \$4,000 for the Andover Fund for Education, and future Andover school programs.

Andover High School won its first town title despite — or perhaps because of — the



Newlyweds Paul and Meredith Bussiere.

added pressure of AHS Principal Peter Anderson. He told the group of AHS teachers, "If you don't come through, vacation will come a lot earlier than you thought."

Teammates credited Latin teacher Laurie Francis-Wright's knowledge with putting them over the hump. "It's a little plug for the ancient languages," said Francis-Wright.

Reading words to contestants during the championship round, Anderson exhibited

his usual dry humor, even taking on a band of middle-school students calling itself Highway to Spell. After Anderson told one of his jokes, the drummer gave him a rim shot, drawing laughs from bandmates and the audience.

"You obviously don't intend on attending the high school," deadpanned Anderson.

— Neil Fater

Andover by the Boston numbers

Boston Magazine's annual list of top towns and hot neighborhoods is out and Andover is included, although it's in "runner-up" status.

The magazine picked four "hot" communities for its weekend warrior category and found Stoneham to be a better community for those who love the outdoors.

Boston Magazine said, "For shredders, climbers, and mountain bikers, access to the mountains come Friday night is of prime importance. Stoneham's location right on Route 93 makes the Whites just two hours away.

But even on those weekends when getting away is just impossible, outdoor enthusiasts can find plenty of playground in the Middlesex Fells, which takes up about one-third of the town with its hiking and biking trails.

"Two towns farther up the highway, North Reading and Andover share access to the more-than-3,000-acre Harold Parker State Forest, while Methuen is so close to New Hampshire it might as well secede."

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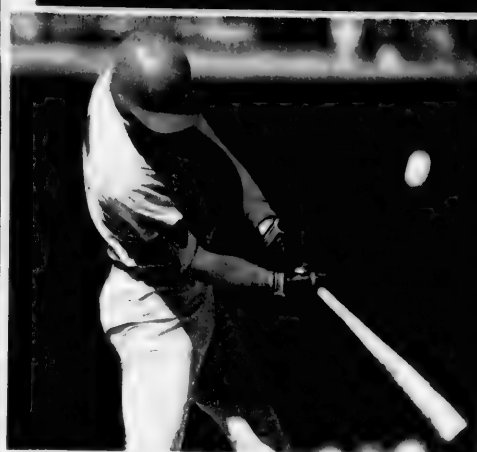
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ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS

Belliveau-Daher

Allison Daher and Marc S. Belliveau were married Oct. 9 at Our Lady of Victories in Boston by the Rev. Philip LaPlante.

The bride is the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Daher of Andover. She was given in marriage by her father.

Maids of honor were Melissa Taylor Daher and Kimberly Daher. Bridesmaids were Kendra Secco, Erin Harris, Laura Wooster, Cathy Ostofsky and Renee Belliveau.

The bride graduated from Andover High School and Salve Regina University in Rhode Island. She is a manager at One Mill Street Restaurant in Lawrence.

The groom is the son of Emil and Fernande Belliveau of Sheddac, New Brunswick. Best man was Michael Anastasio. Ushers were Michael Maillet, James Walsh, Christopher Clough, Eric Sirois, Charles Daher and James Taylor.

The groom graduated from St. Andrew's High School. He is a golf pro at Andover Country Club in Andover.

Following a reception at the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston, the couple left for Sydney, Australia on their honeymoon.

The couple live in South Lawrence.



Allison and Marc Belliveau

Connell-Ciaccia

Melissa Ciaccia and Patrick Connell were married Aug. 28 by Rev. Michael Ebner at the Cochran Chapel on the campus of Phillips Academy.

The bride is the daughter of Peter and Linda Ciaccia of Andover. Her father gave her in marriage. Maid of honor was Kristen Connell. Bridesmaids were Jennifer DiFranco and Jesse Drench.

The bride is a graduate of Phillips Academy and Holy Cross College. She is a teacher of Spanish at Saint Mary's High School in Portland, Ore.

The groom is the son of Frank and Ellen Connell of Portland, Ore. Best man was Brian Connell. Ushers were Jeff Nowlan and Brad Kintzer.

The groom graduated from Saint Joseph's Preparatory in Philadelphia, and the University of Vermont. He is a multimedia specialist working for Portland Community College in Portland, Ore.

After a reception at the Andover Inn, the couple honeymooned in Mexico.

They live in Portland, Ore.



Melissa and Patrick Connell

Liberty-Engle

Shelly Lynn Engle, daughter of Ron and Betty Engle of Dillsburg, Pa. became the bride of Matthew Girard Liberty, son of Sue

and Girard Liberty of Inwood Lane, on May 22, 2004 at the Hostetter Chapel on the campus of Messiah College in Grantham, Pa.

Dr. S. Ronald Parks officiated. A reception followed at the Allenberry Playhouse and Resort in Boiling Springs.

Serving as maid of honor for her sister was Beth Lunt. Bridesmaids were Becky Grove, Rebecca Kasparek, and Kristin Williams, all friends of the bride. Lauren Stwalley served as flower girl, and her brother, Andrew, served as ring bearer.

The bride's strapless A-line ivory matte satin dress was enhanced with chapel length train and ivory/silver embroidery on the bodice and around the base.

The bride is a 1996 graduate of Messiah College in Grantham, Pa., where she received a bachelor's degree in history. She is a study consultant for Watson Wyatt Worldwide in Washington, D.C.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of Andover High School and a 1996 graduate of Cornell University, where he received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He is lead engineer for Hillcrest Communications in Rockville, Md.

The couple live in Potomac, Md.



Matthew and Shelly Liberty

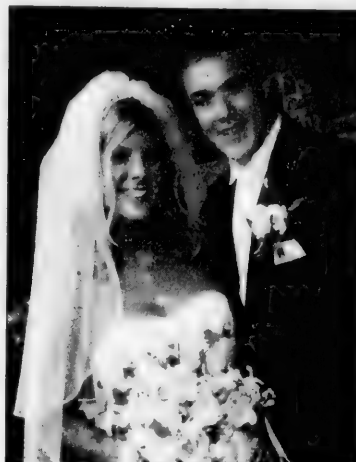
Ricci-Cincotta

Lisa Marie Cincotta and Douglas Raymond Ricci were married Sept. 11 at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Andover.

The bride is the daughter of Louis and Marcia Cincotta of Andover. She graduated from Andover High School and the University of Vermont. She is employed at Columbia Management in Boston.

The groom is the son of Robert and Janet Ricci of Middlebury, Conn. He graduated from Middlebury High School and the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is employed at Lee Capital Group in Boston.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple live in Westford.



Lisa and Douglas Ricci

Vukosa-Gardner

Shannon Gardner and Steve Vukosa were married Nov. 6 at St. Augustine Church, where Rev. Scott Ness of Merrimack College officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Gardner of Andover and is a graduate of Andover High School. She received a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and is employed as a clinical nutrition manager at Somerville Hospital.

The groom, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alberto Vukosa of Quincy, graduated from Quincy High School. He is a general contractor at Al Vukosa Hardwood Floors.

The couple honeymooned in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. They live in Quincy.



Steve and Shannon Vukosa

Luti anniversary

Celebrating their first wedding anniversary in Giessen, Germany are Captain Brian P.S. Luti and Bethany Wallace Stewart Luti. The couple were married Nov. 29, 2003 at the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Topsfield.

After a honeymoon in Spain and the Algarve region of Portugal, the couple live in Giessen, Germany.

Bethany Luti is a customer relations representative with the Community Bank, a Department of Defense facility associated with the Bank of America in Friedberg, Germany. She graduated from Boston College with a degree in modern languages; her program included having an interim study at the University of Paris. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William Stewart III of Topsfield.

An officer in a US Army Engineer Brigade, Captain Luti is an ROTC graduate of the University of Vermont and a master's degree candidate at the University of Missouri. He recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

His parents, Paul and Sharin Luti, former residents of Andover, live in Quechee, Vt.



Bethany and Brian Luti

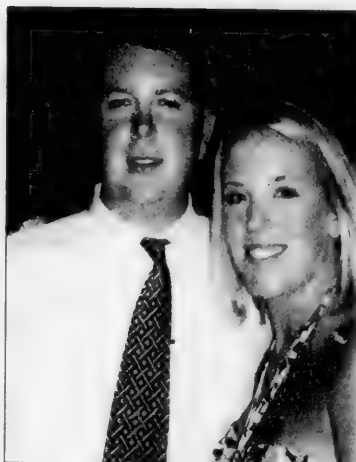
Levesque-Donovan

Donald and Susan Levesque of Andover announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Elizabeth of Melrose, to John William Donovan III, also of Melrose. He is the son of Gale Donovan of Andover and the late John W. Donovan Jr.

Ms. Levesque graduated from Andover High School and the University of Rhode Island. She is employed as a graphic designer at CBI.

Mr. Donovan graduated from Andover High School and the University of Rhode Island. He is a senior data analyst at ASA in Boston.

The couple plan a September wedding.



John Donovan III and Amy Levesque

BIRTHS

COSENTINO — A daughter, Maggie Rose Cosentino, born to David L. and Kathleen E. Cosentino of Andover on Feb. 27 at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Grandparents are Joseph and Eileen McLaughlin of Georgetown, and Alfred and Laurel Cosentino of Chelmsford.

MCCONNELL — A son, James Matthew McConnell, born to Brenda Tracy McConnell and Matthew McConnell of Andover on Mar. 30 at Mt. Auburn Hospital, Cambridge. Grandparents are James and Maryanne Tracy of Tewksbury, and Bob and Gladys McConnell of Arlington. James joins Colleen, 5, and Patrick, 3,

AROUND TOWN

PA speaker will present Muslim perspective during Interfaith Week

Hamza Yusuf, founder of the Zaytuna Institute, will be featured in a series of interfaith dialogues Saturday, April 16, at Phillips Academy. At a brunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Yusuf will discuss "Seeing the World Through Muslim Eyes." He will hold an informal conversation on "Religious Pluralism in America" from 3:30 to 5 p.m.



Hamza Yusuf

A panel of religious leaders will discuss "Faith Communities in the Midst of a Secular World" from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The day's events are free and open to the public and will be held in the Underwood Room, 3 Chapel Ave.

The Zaytuna Institute, established in California to present a classical picture of Islam in the West, is dedicated to the revival of traditional study methods and the sciences of Islam.

The first American lecturer to teach in Morocco's oldest university, the Kairoiun in Fes, Yusuf also has translated several classical Arabic texts and poems into modern English.

'Student Safe Driving Program' targets high crash rate for teens in Andover

Openings are still available in the Student Safe Driving Program, Saturday, April 23, in North Andover. The hands-on, half-day program targets teens in Andover and North Andover.

"Our goal is to introduce these young people, in a controlled setting, to the different types of hazardous driving situations that they might encounter in town or on the open road," says Brad Heim, program coordinator for the Service Club of Andover. "Statistics show that accidents involving teens all too often involve situations that an older, more skilled driver might be able to avoid but the teen driver simply has not experienced."

The SSDP coaches new drivers in the critical skills necessary for accident avoidance and emergency situations. Students spend most of the session behind the wheel, working with professional instructors, learning to think faster and drive smarter. This is the only program of its kind in the state - allowing students to practice emergency responses driving at highway speeds.

Latest figures show that 42 percent of 16-year-olds and 23 percent of 17-year-olds are involved in crashes each year. There is a fatal crash involving young drivers every 62 minutes, according to a recent segment of ABC-TV's *Primetime*.

There is a morning and afternoon session available. The program is co-sponsored by the Service Club of Andover, the Massachusetts State Auto Dealers Charitable Foundation, and Ozzy Properties. Registration fee is \$100 per student. Space is limited. More information is available at www.skidschool.com/msada; by e-mail at driving@msada.org; or by phone at 617-451-1051. Call immediately to reserve a spot, organizers advised.

Participants must be students, at least 16 years old, with six months on-the-road experience, and a valid Class D license or Junior Operators License.

The Service Club of Andover is a group of business people and residents of the Town of Andover whose primary mission is to "Make a Difference" in the lives of the Youth of Andover and the developmentally disabled persons in the Merrimack Valley. It meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Andover Inn at 7 a.m. for breakfast. Guests are always welcome.

**APRIL FIRST BIRTHDAY
PHOTOS & WRITE-UPS ARE DUE
FRIDAY, APRIL 22 AT 5 P.M.**

By Pat Becker

Andover Senior Center

Here are some of the activities coming up at the Andover Senior Center.

Research Project: The senior center will be participating in an important research study with the Center for Health and Disease Research at UMass Lowell, which will focus on preventing age-related macular degeneration and cataracts. If you are interested in participating in this study, or would like more information, UMass researchers will be at the senior center on Friday, April 15 at 1:30 p.m. and Wednesday, April 20 at 10 a.m. Call Pat Becker if you are interested in attending either presentation.

Parker's Maple Sugar House: If you like good food, be sure and make a reservation to join us on Monday, April 29 when we will head out to Parker's Maple Sugar House in Mason, N.H. The outing will include a sugar house tour, a choice of a complete lunch or breakfast, and a visit to the Corn Cob Gift Shop. Cost of the trip is \$32, which includes transportation. Menu selections are available at the center.

Two Historic Bostons: "Boston, England to Boston, Mass., 1630." Co-sponsored by the senior center and Memorial Hall Library, this presentation Wednesday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m. at the library will be highlighted by a four-panel exhibit seven feet high, illustrating the common legacies of the two Bostons. Speakers will be Dr. Will Holton, professor at Northeastern University, and Miriam Butts, lecturer and historian.

Magical Main Courses: Are you cooking for just one or two? Are you sick of cooking the same old items? Then join us for some easy, healthy, fun menus focusing on protein dishes. This four-part, taste-testing series will meet Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 1:30 p.m. Presenter will be Terry Bargar, the FOOD FOR THOUGHT columnist for the *Townsmen*. She specializes in using fresh ingredients to create quick, easy recipes.

Movie Matinee: Our next movie matinee will be Monday, April 25 at 1 p.m. when we will show the recent hit, *The Note-*

book. Based on the best-selling novel by Nicholas Sparks, this romantic drama is the nostalgic story of true love and destiny.

Fix-It Shop: Our fix-it shop will be open for business again on Monday, April 25 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Our volunteers will be happy to take a look at any small appliance or household item in need of repair.

Men's Breakfast: Our next men's breakfast will be held Friday, April 15 at 8:30 a.m. Couples are encouraged to attend this presentation by Detective Mark Higginbottom of the Andover Police Dept. Advance reservations (\$3) are necessary.

Digital Photography For Beginners: This six-week class will run from May 5 through June 9 on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 3; \$30. This class is for those wanting an overview of how to use their digital camera with their computer to create prints or learn to send photos over the Internet. Limited spaces; pre-registration required.

Art Instruction: A new 12-week session of art instruction with Andrea Hart will begin on Monday, May 2 at 1:30 p.m. All mediums and levels are welcome in this class, which is geared to individual attention in a supportive atmosphere. Pre-registration is necessary; \$50.

Cardio Circuit Training: A six-week session of cardio circuit training will get underway at Shapes By Design beginning on April 18. Cost of the class is \$45 for the recommended three sessions per week. Advance sign-up is required through the senior center. Call Pat Becker at the center for further information.

Square Dance Group: We are in the process of forming a square dance group that is open to anyone who is interested. Introductory sessions will be held every Tuesday in April at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$4 at the door. Come alone or with a partner.

Boston Pops - "American Crossroads": The center will sponsor a trip to the Boston Pops on Wednesday, June 8 for an 8 p.m. show. Keith Lockhart will conduct this "American Crossroads" program, which also includes a special appearance by The Wayfaring

Strangers. Cost is \$58, which includes first balcony center seating and bus transportation from the center. Full payment is due to the Pops by April 8, so book early if you'd like to take advantage of this trip.

Woodcarving Class: Fred Arakelian will begin offering his woodcarving class Monday, April 28. Class runs for eight weeks at a cost of \$25. Some carving experience is helpful, but direction is provided. Drop into the center to pre-register.

Women's Wellness Breakfast - Celebrating Long-Term Living: Finding wholeness and balance as we age are important components of maintaining energy and health as we move through our senior years. Come join us as we explore ways to stay well and enjoy the gifts of life. Friday, May 6 at 8 a.m. Speakers will be Suetta Tenney, MD, Deborah Malone, RN and Gerry Rainville, RN. Advance reservations only; \$3.

Bird Walks: Head out to local birding spots every Monday in May with Al and Evelyn

Retelle to catch spring migration. No charge, but please pre-register because we don't want to head out without you. Meet at the center at 7:30 a.m.

Beginners' Computer Class: A four-session beginners' computer class will be held Tuesdays, May 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 2 to 4 p.m. Cost of the course is \$40 and spaces are limited. Sign-up at the center if you are interested.

Duck Tour & Luncheon Package: We are currently accepting reservations for our Boston Duck Tour followed by lunch at Skipjack's Restaurant on Wednesday, May 18 leaving the center at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$48, which includes transportation, a 90-minute tour by duck boat, lunch, and gratuity. Menu selections available at the center.

Humor Club: Do you enjoy a good laugh? Do you believe that laughter really is the best medicine? Then you're invited to join us Wednesday, May 11 at 1:30 p.m. for the first meeting of our new humor club. No charge, pre-registration appreciated.

Passover Seder planned by Havurat Shalom

Havurat Shalom will host a Family Passover Seder next Saturday, April 23. Donation is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Contact Sandy at 978-475-9583 to make a reservation.

FIRST BIRTHDAYS

~ 2005 KEY DATES ~

ISSUE DATE	PHOTO DEADLINE
Apr. 28	Apr. 22
May 26	May 20
June 30	June 24
July 28	July 22
Aug. 25	Aug. 19
Sept. 29	Sept. 23
Oct. 27	Oct. 21
Nov. 24	Nov. 18
Dec. 29	Dec. 23

BABIES CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAYS, affiliated with Andover, are eligible to have their pictures in the *Townsmen* free. They will normally be published in the issue dated the last Thursday of the month, in the month of baby's first birthday. All babies having a first birthday in April will be published in the April 28 issue. All photos must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, April 22 (see box).

Photos received after the deadline will not be published. Similarly, first birthday photos older than the current month also will not be published.

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on or before
3rd day of May
or you may be for-
warred from claim-
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and under said act.
ss. KAREN F.
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Court this 5th day
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borah J. Patterson
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appearance and
in said court at
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day of May 2005 or
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foreclosure is
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lifter, 170, open bow, covers, canopy, trailer. Boat has approximately 130 hrs. \$10,000. 978-373-4298.

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HAVERHILL, MA:

Yard Sale off Rte 97 near All Saints Church area. Lots of misc. items. Sat. 4/16, 8-2.

KINGSTON E. NH -

MOVING SALE. Furniture, Antiques, Rugs & Lots of Great Stuff! Sat. 4/16 & Sun. 4/17, 9-3. 148 Haverhill Rd. Rte 108.

LAWRENCE, MA. Sat. 4/16

Antiques, household items, tools, windows, construction tools & equipment, i.e. pump jacks. Lots of free stuff! GREAT BUYS!!

METHUEN, MA - 12 Hobson

St. Saturday, April 16, 8 to 4 p.m. Clothes, furniture, books, movies, music, toys, home goods, Little Tykes and miscellaneous.

NO ANDOVER, MA Sat. 8

Lots of good used furniture. Some child age 2-4 toys. Intersecting Rte 114/25/33. Follow signs 17 Highland Terr. (across from Etna Allen).

PEABODY, MA

9 Westview Cir. Saturday, April 16, 8-2 p.m. MULTI FAMILY. Glassware, dishes, etc.

ROCKPORT, MA

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Yard Sale Sat. April 16, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 192 Dodge Road off Rte. 131. Vintage tractor, tools, washer/dryer, roll splitter, wicker chair, lawn and bike, garden equipment. Rain date Sun. April 17.

SALEM, MA 20 Barnes Cr.

Highland Ave. to Barnes Cr. to Barnes. GARAGE/MOVING SALE. Sat. 4/16 & Sun. 4/17 8:00 am. Rain or shine.

SALISBURY, MA

RINGS ISLAND, 6 March Road. Fri & Sat. 8-2. GIGANTIC SALE. Hundreds of Books - Glass Pieces. Music Items - Frames & old photos - videos - Audio. Household and Furniture.

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KIA, 2000, Sport Utility, 4 door, 5 speed, full power, tow package, 72K, #227, \$5,700

FORD, 1995, Taurus LX, 4 door, great shape, 54K, #228, \$2,490

MAZDA, 2000, Protege LX, 4 door, great shape, 4 wheel drive, 56K, #229, \$5,690

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Parents launch Web site, eye legal fight to keep teacher

TEACHER SUPPORT

Continued from page 1

"The superintendent began discussions (last Thursday) by saying that no matter what happens, the decision will not be changed," said Cam Mears, whose daughter, Annabel, 5, is Fischer's class. Mears and his wife, Diana, hosted a parent meeting at their home on Sunday to talk about taking action on behalf of Fischer.

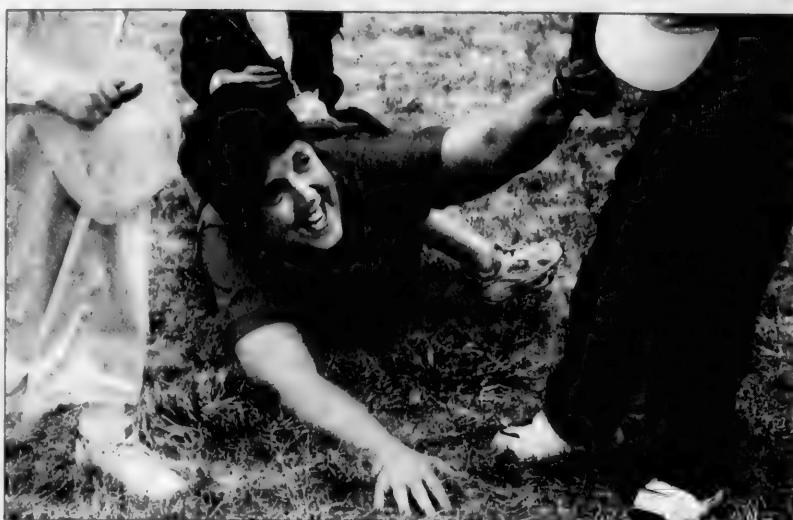
"No one ever asked any of the parents how we feel about Ms. Fischer, and now no one seems to want to listen," Mears added. "The superintendent reinforced in our minds that the administration is intent on overstepping its bounds."

Bach declined to comment on the issue, stressing that she will not speak publicly on personnel matters out of "sensitivity to the person involved." She said careful consideration is given before finalizing teacher decisions, and, in Fischer's case, "we made the right one."

Following an annual job performance review at Shawsheen School on March 31, Fischer was not invited to resume her teaching duties this fall. Fischer's class at Shawsheen, instructing pre-K students with special needs, is the only public education program in Andover that caters to prekindergartners with learning disabilities.

The news prompted many parents to boycott school for 24 hours and more than two dozen parents — including almost all who currently have a child enrolled in Fischer's care and many who used to — sent a signed letter to Bach and the School Committee requesting the teacher's reinstatement.

Shawsheen Principal Moira O'Brien's reason for ending Fis-



Suzy Fischer, special education teacher in Shawsheen School, plays with children of parents who held a meeting at Cam Mears' home on Sunday. Some parents want Fischer to continue in town.

cher's employment, said Fischer, was that the special education teacher "is not a good fit for Andover Schools."

"It was a complete surprise to find out I wouldn't be coming back," said Fischer, who has been teaching at Shawsheen for two years. "I'm still confused about the reason for the decision, but at the same time I'm very flattered by the parents' positive evaluations."

The School Committee listened as parents told stories about how Fischer's mentoring has been "working miracles" in their children's lives.

"As parents of special needs kids, many of us have spoken with more than one specialist," Mears told the committee. "In my case I've been to about 10. When you find the right fit, it's something that's extremely exciting for a parent. I know 15

parents who will all tell you that once Suzy started working with their kids, great things happened."

Diana Mears spoke about their daughter's tendency to run into corners and soil herself. Since Anabel has worked with Fischer, those episodes are no longer a problem, Mears said. Kelly Cameron added that her son, Cole, 4, is also communicating better.

"He's talking better, he's less frustrated, he doesn't fight, he doesn't throw things," said Cameron, who broke into tears. "To see Suzy go at this point in his young life would be a shame."

School Committee Chairman Tony James told parents the committee has no authority over the hiring or working conditions of anyone in the schools.

Parents believe Fischer's ter-

mination points to a much larger issue, which they say is an assumed gag order enforced by school department heads that frowns on open communication between parents and teachers.

The penalty for breaching "the code," said Cam Mears, is losing one's job.

Mears and about 26 other supporters of Fischer suspect her contract was ended because of the special education teacher's openness about some students not reaping the full benefits of their Individual Education Plans.

"Ms. Fischer was very honest about the kind of care some students should be receiving but were not getting," said Mears. "There's a give and take between parents and schools to get an IEP. My fear, based on our meeting with the superintendent and talking with other parents and teachers before that, is

that there's an unspoken code in the administration that says to teachers, 'You don't give advice to parents.'"

Bach said such perceptions of why Fischer will not be returning are incorrect.

"Teachers are always advising parents," Bach said. "We encourage open communication between parents and teachers because it serves the students' best interest."

Most states have tenure laws that prevent teachers from being fired without just cause and due process. In Massachusetts, the first three years a teacher spends in a school district is considered pre-professional status, said Bach, making the just cause provision inapplicable.

Parents and SPED kids' plans

While the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1997 requires that any type of service, including occupational therapy, listed on an IEP needs to be administered by the school, there is speculation by parents that some of those requirements are not being met.

"This is not Ms. Fischer's battle, this is our battle because it has long-term effects on our children," said Maureen Rigazio. "In the end, they're the ones who suffer the most because of this decision made by the school administration without any explanation to

the parents."

"The school administration says that Ms. Fischer is not a good fit for Andover, but we are Andover and we say she fits perfectly," added parent Jason Haskell. "The superintendent is sending a strong message to parents that we do not have a voice. But we will not sit back and allow our children's services to be compromised."

Parents are now working to put together a Web site, www.savesuzy.com, and said their next step could involve legal action.

"We absolutely will not go away," said parent Bob Goldsmith. "When decisions are made that strongly affect children without consulting any parents, there are major concerns about the bigger picture here."

Approximately 15 parents who attended the Sunday meeting at Mears' house said they were in disbelief over losing such a "unique and gifted" educator. From volunteering to attend meetings with specialists to creating an environment for student's needs, parents said Fischer goes beyond the call of duty.

"If you don't know how to respond to (my son Jack), you lose him for the entire day," said Rigazio. "Suzy has been instrumental in helping us find the best methods of therapy that work for Jack."

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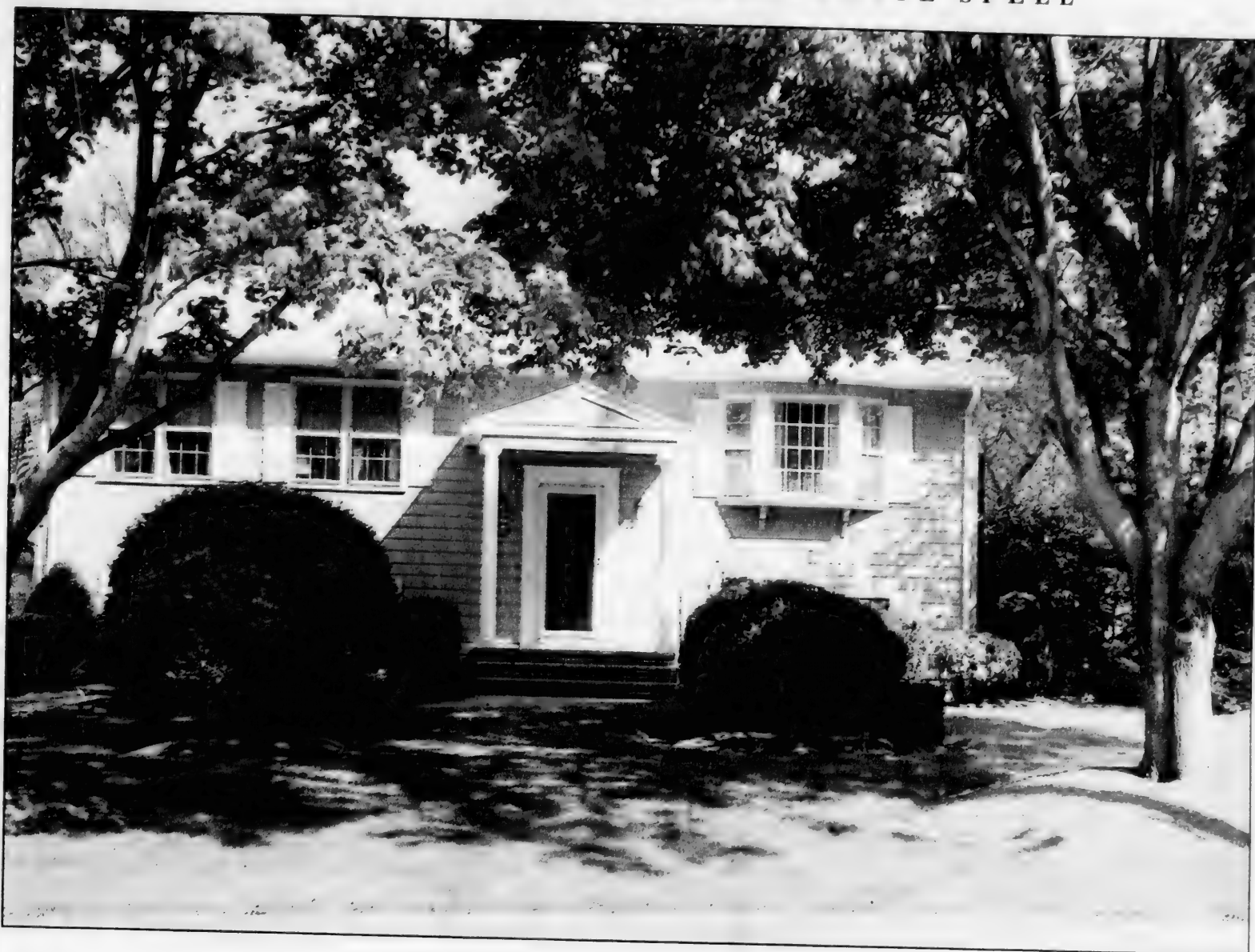
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SPRING HOME AND GARDEN

GREEN IT UP AFTER A LONG WHITE SPELL



Where to start with a winter-damaged lawn

Salt, sand, plow damage can leave grass by the street in need of spring rescue

By Judith Bright

Now that we've gotten back that extra hour of daylight, the winter damage done to our little corner of the planet might suddenly be all too apparent.

In spite of a natural desire to turn away from the devastation, the best thing to do in early spring is take a walk around the yard to assess its condition, according to Steven Coates of Green Ridge Landscaping of Andover.

"Salt and plow damage along the street and paved areas are obvious," says Coates, "but it's important to look for other signs of damage to the lawn, such as snow mold."

When the damage is done

After identifying the problem areas, it is worth the extra work to bring back the lawn, including edges damaged by road sand and salt, says Coates.

"Damage has a tendency to 'creep'

deeper and deeper into the property each and every year," he says.

A single season can add a virtual "dead zone" extending three or more feet from the street into the lawn. In this case, says Coates, rake or sweep the sand and salt into the street.

"It's important to really bear down on the rake or broom to aggressively remove the layer of debris."

If this work is too physically demanding, buying or renting a power broom or power rake could save one's

back muscles. Renting is usually better for most homeowners, according to Coates, "because you're going to get a professional quality tool. It also makes sense to rent because it's a tool that is only used once a year."

Hosing down the affected patches might help further dilute and wash off the street salt. When all this is done, all that's left is waiting. "If the grass doesn't come back by mid- to late-April, there is nothing to do but reseed."

The fungus among us

Snow mold is not a catchall phrase for the ravaging effects of winter, but an actual disease of the lawn. Says Coates, "The mold thrives under deep, long-lasting snow that gradually melts away, keeping cool moist conditions around the grass blades."

Thatch is another condition of the springtime lawn. A buildup of clippings and last season's dead grass form a matted buildup around the

Continued on page 2A

Indoors meets outdoors at the windows

By Judith Bright

There might be no more important feature of a home than its windows.

Besides their function in admitting light and air to the house, windows are key to many aesthetic factors that give a home its appeal.

From the outside, windows create a facade, literally the "face" that the home (and, by extension, the homeowner) presents to the world. Windows are an element of the exterior design that defines the period and architectural style of the house.

From the inside, they let in both daylight (sometimes moonlight for those with a romantic bent) and air. Windows are also used to control the amount and intensity of the elements allowed inside. South-facing windows, for example, are a source of heat that might be desirable on a sunny winter afternoon in New England, but unwelcome at the same house in August.

Another element windows help contain is noise, dampening the neighbor's barking dog, the lawn mower, or traffic sounds that never figured into our idyll of suburban living.

Depending on their size, windows also create or frame a view. One might think of a window as a wall of the home decorated with whatever is outside. Glass doors and picture windows are usually strategically placed to give the best views of a property. Smaller windows, too, can focus attention on appealing aspects of the garden.

It stands to reason that changes made to windows will result in dramatic changes to the look of the home. In springtime they need attention just like every other aspect of the home.

Spring cleaning

A homeowner will find no single chore on the spring cleaning list that is more effective than cleaning windows

in making a dramatic change in the appearance of things indoors.

While the family has been cooped up for long months indoors, the home's windows have been accumulating a film of dust and grime deposited by home heaters, condensation, cooking and other indoor sources, such as smoking.

It is possible to find cleaning services that do windows, but washing windows can be one chore that provides immediate positive feedback. A whole room and everything in it brightens when the windows are sparkling clean.

As for cleaning agents, old-fashioned formulas featuring warm water, ammonia and a little white vinegar work better than many expensive premixed cleaners on the market. Ammonia requires no rinsing and the white vinegar will prevent streaking. A reliable window-cleaning formula consists of 2 fluid ounces of ammonia and 1 ounce of vinegar per quart of warm water.

New wardrobe

There once was a spring tradition of changing the draperies completely. The heavy "winter" draperies were designed to smother the window frames in an effort to keep out the winter cold in a time before central heating became nearly universal. With the advent of warm weather, the winter drapes would be replaced by a "summer" set that would be light and airy, calculated to admit the summer breezes wherever they could be found.

Windows in days past also had shades that would be raised and lowered throughout the summer day to block the direct sun that otherwise could bake the inhabitants and simultaneously bleach the color from furniture and carpets, weakening their fabrics in

Continued on page 4A



Tilt-in windows are the ultimate window treatment, says Linda Duarte, co-owner of Lawrence Aluminum and Window Fashion of Andover. Easy indoor cleaning can also lead to greater safety in performing springtime chores, because people do not need to use ladders or climb on chairs.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Reversing the damage

■ LAWN CARE

Continued from page 1A

bases of the grassblades. Thatch works with the snow layer to keep conditions just right for diseases such as snow mold.

Fortunately, the cure for both snow mold and thatch is the same, says Coates. "De-thatching removes the old dead grass and picks up the few dead leaves that remain." Dethatching changes the conditions around the grass, making them much less hospitable to disease. "The key is to get air flow at the ground level."

If the goal is a golf course-type lawn, it might help to treat it like a golf course. Golf courses use a power corer, says Coates, and this is where it really pays to rent.

"The corer actually pulls a core of soil out of the ground and deposits it on the surface," said Coates. "It does wonders for the lawn, but a machine like that costs around \$3,000. Even renting can run \$100 per day. This is where it can make sense to split costs with a neighbor and share the rental."

It's a good idea to make sure an exact schedule for the sharing is spelled out in advance.

Creature feature

Looking closely at the ground surface of the lawn might reveal clues to another threat to the green space. Many small "trails" over the surface of the lawn could indicate the presence of moles, which create the trails in the same way as someone who crosses the lawn at the same diagonal every day.

Mole trails will be 1 to 2 inches wide and form characteristic swirls. The moles are

The photo on page 1A shows 6 Richards Road last year after winter cleanup was complete. The photos on this page show the type of work that needs to be done this spring.

attracted to insect larvae living in the lawn, including larvae of Japanese beetles, chinch bugs, and grubs. To get rid of the moles, one must get rid of the insects.

Many lawn-care products have step-by-step instructions and include the right fertilizers, fungicides, and insecticides. These days, there are also more environmentally friendly pest-control options, including the use of microbes that attack pests.

Microbial insecticides are appealing because they typically consist of one bacterium that specifically targets a single insect. When the lawn is free of the target pest, the bacteria also die off. These characteristics make them harmless to pets, children, and plant life, according to the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida.

As with most solutions, there are pros and cons, and the pros and cons are usually sides of the same coin. Microbial solutions, attractive because of their limited effect, will attack only that single organism, then die out. But, says the IFAS, most infested lawns will have more than one pest. Each pest may require a separate biological agent,

which adds to expense, to handling and storage issues (such as multiple shelf lives) and to more application labor.

What to do right now

Early spring is the time to prepare the lawn for a healthy growing season. Start early with raking, dethatching and cleaning out flowerbeds, but wait until the soil has thawed and dried out some before walking across the surface. Otherwise, young roots can be crushed and the soil permanently compacted.

Examine shrubs and trees, removing broken branches, dead wood, and winterkill, as well as anything that has fallen onto the lawn. Trim flowering shrubs later in the season, after they have blossomed but before next year's buds have set.

Application of mulch is a purely personal preference, selected on the basis of color, says Coates, "though cedar mulch does help repel insects." He recommends raking out some of the old mulch, but says there is no need to remove it all.

"Leave room for a new top layer," he says. "Most people don't place the new mulch until early May, which guarantees it will have a fresh, crisp look through the summer." Placed now, says Coates, most mulch will fade long before the Fourth of July. "Just be sure to avoid building up mulch around the base of any tree or shrub. It will act like the thatch on the grass, trapping moisture against the bark."

Avoid 'shoulda, woulda, coulda'

Finally, when fall rolls around again, there are steps res-

Continued on page 3A



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Green Ridge Landscaping foreman Ben Cloutier (above) operates a corer that aerates the lawn.



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Sand and salt used during the winter can ravage lawns along the street edge, as occurred at this lawn on Richards Road.

Steps to proper lawn watering

To prevent damage to grass and achieve a healthy lawn, Richard Carter of MyLawnGuy, LLC, offers the following guidance for proper watering to his clients in Andover:

First, continuously monitor grass for signs of wilting. One sign is an overall bluish appearance. Another is "footprinting," which occurs when grass blades don't spring back after a person has walked across the lawn.

Second, it's important to know how to water. Frequent light watering encourages shallow root growth, since roots will grow where the conditions are most favorable. It's better to give the lawn deeper soakings once or twice weekly. The result will be deeper roots and better resistance to drought late in the season.

Remember, drought stress does not just dry up the grass. It makes the thousands of tiny plants that constitute the lawn more susceptible to all kinds of pests and diseases, and makes them less robust in competing with weeds that are continually attracted to the lawn.

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Winter damage

LAWN CARE

Continued from page 2A

idents can take to avoid the same problems next spring. With lawn care, a bit of prevention is worth hours of cure. For instance, placing reflectors on tall stakes along driveway and street edges will guide the snowplow and prevent the loss of turf. And an investment of just \$30 in the fall can help reduce the salt damage along street edges.

"In the late fall after the ground is frozen but before the snow falls, roll out a layer of landscape fabric along the street edge where damage is likely,"

advises Coates. "This is the same stuff used under bark mulch, so it is pervious to water. Secure it with stakes or weights such as stones or bricks. When spring comes, all the sand, salt and other debris that would have ended up on the lawn is on the fabric. Tip it into the street (before the street sweeper has visited) and the cleanup is complete."

Available from most home and garden centers, landscaping fabric typically comes in three-foot-wide rolls of 25-, 50-, and 75-foot lengths. As a labor-saver, Coates says it is well worth the investment.



Steve Coates digs into the problem with a rake and some energy.



Mulch is an aesthetic way of limiting weed growth around plantings. Just don't smother the base or trunk of the tree or shrub. Steve Coates warns.

LWV has safe-lawn solutions

By Judith Bright

The Andover/North Andover League of Women Voters, in concert with the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection, recently (April 2) presented a workshop titled "Healthy Lawns and Landscapes."

Among the topics were "Basic Lawn Care," "Soil Testing," "Grub Control" and information about the "Andover Pesticide Awareness Campaign."

Soil testing is a recommended first step in lawn care, according to the LWV, because it is the only sure way to know the lawn is getting everything it needs — and nothing it doesn't.

What is not used by the grass is wasted and washes off the soil. That is a financial loss when homeowners purchase lawn care products not needed and unused by their lawns. But it doesn't mean those products dis-

appear. Soil additives, nutrients, and any pesticides not taken up by the lawn inevitably end up in the ground water.

Runoff like this can be avoided with soil testing and the purchase of only what the individual lawn requires.

Perhaps the single most important workshop topic was that of pesticide use. Pesticides have serious consequences for the health and economics of both individuals and the community.

According to the LWV, homeowners are relatively knowledgeable about the safe handling of pesticides to reduce personal exposure. There are other sources of exposure, however, and all of them are involuntary and beyond our control.

Some involuntary sources of pesticide exposure include "drift" (air currents carrying pes-

ticides applied to other properties), accumulations in the water supply due to the type of runoff mentioned above, mosquito control programs, and treated public spaces such as restaurants and playing fields.

Pesticides have been linked to cancer, reduced male fertility, increased birth defects and miscarriages, neurological impairment and damage to other bodily systems, says the League. Worse, the most vulnerable population tend to be children and pets, who are more likely to spend time in close physical proximity to the treated lawn, it says.

The LWV is working to increase public awareness of the issue and to advocate for the use of safe products on public lands. The most important thing individual homeowners can do, according to the LWV, is to use organic growing methods.

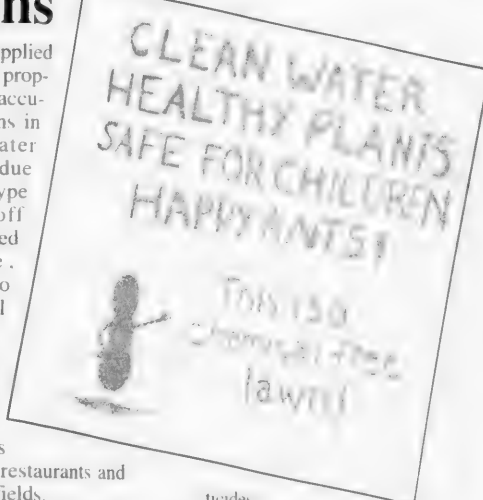
It is also important for residents to realize that the town of Andover has a Board of Health policy on pesticide use, prepared by the town's Pesticide Reduction Task Force in July, 2003. The policy recognizes that pesticides are poisons by their nature. The policy limits the use of pes-

ticides and promotes the use of safe organic alternatives.

The LWV also offers several recommendations to help homeowners "Develop Healthy Lawns and Landscapes." Here are a few of its suggestions:

- Develop healthy soil.
 - Put the right plant in the right place, a spot that meets needs for sun, shade, soil type and drainage are met.
 - Add organic material to the soil. These are food to the plant. Feeding the lawn single elements such as nitrogen is like a human subsisting on vitamins. Many micronutrients are missed and health is compromised.
- For more information, call Joyce Ringleb, League of Women Voters, 978-475-3490 or visit www.lwv.org.

The verse used by LWV for the pictured lawn sign was provided by students at Wood Hill Middle School.



Create a butterfly garden



Nectar-producing plants

Nectar is the primary food for hungry butterflies. Plants such as aster, butterfly bush, daisy, honeysuckle, lilac and phlox are a few of many nectar-producing plants. Butterfly species in the local area might prefer specific plants, so a little research might be needed.

Host plants

Butterflies begin life as caterpillars, so the garden will also require host plants that nourish the growing larvae. Local "weeds," thistle, nettle and tree leaves are popular food sources for the caterpillars. While not as pleasing to the eye, they are necessary to maintain a healthy species.

Water

Butterflies need water, but cannot directly "drink" from open water sources. They prefer landing on moist soil, so place a shallow dish full of moistened sand at ground level.

(MS) — Flowers and plants in both garden and window boxes can look even more appealing when butterflies call them home. Making a garden inviting to these colorful, fluttering visitors involves a little planning and the selecting of butterfly-friendly foliage.

The basic needs of butterflies are relatively simple: food, water, sunlight and shelter. A butterfly garden is best planted in the sun so that the nectar-producing plants butterflies love will flourish. The sun also regulates the temperature of a butterfly's body, which is what enables it to fly. Some shadier areas should be interspersed so that the butterflies don't overheat.



Lawn chemicals eventually end up in the ground water. Andover's water treatment plant is located on Lowell Street (Route 133).

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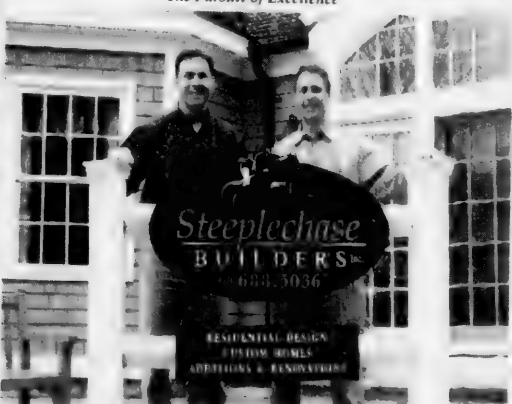
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Dick and Linda Duarte's home doubles as a showroom for the windows, blinds, wooden shutters and other window fashions they sell.

Windows: Inside, looking out

■ WINDOWS

Continued from page 1A

the process

Linda Duarte, co-owner of Lawrence Aluminum and Window Fashions of Andover, says all that has changed. "Everything now is light and airy," she says, "both inside and out."

Bright, light modern shades can hardly be called shades because of all the features they incorporate, indicate Duarte and her husband and partner, Dick Duarte.

"Constructed of new sheer fabrics, the shades now block heat while letting in the light" say the Duartes. "The new shades incorporate privacy blinds sandwiched between two

layers of sheer fabric. When the shades are raised, they disappear into barely noticeable boxes above the sashes. This makes for elegance, and a clean uncluttered look for any decor and style."

Since curtains and draperies no longer have to perform all the functions of controlling light and privacy, the emphasis is on their fashion contribution.

"The latest trend is toward new fashion wooden blinds with 2-inch slats," says Linda Duarte. "Blinds might be all the windows need, and they can be stained for any decor." For formal settings, draperies can be reduced to stylish window toppers, swags and jabots that

frame the windows without weighing them down.

Outside, window awnings are making a comeback, although Linda Duarte said, "they've never really gone out of style. For a period of time, many homes used retractable aluminum awnings. But now fabrics are regaining popularity."

Replacement windows

Perhaps the ultimate spring treatment for windows is to replace them with the newest window technologies.

"Low maintenance non-wood windows are long lasting," says Dick Duarte. "The double- and triple-glazing saves

energy and reduces noise, while the tilt-in features make them easier to clean at all times of the year."

One other thing tilt-ins do is keep the homeowner off a ladder, which might be an important safety benefit for some homeowners who are either not handy or unstable on their feet.

Springtime and fall are the best seasons to change windows, says Dick Duarte. "It's not a good idea to have the home open to damaging cold, moisture and the winds of winter," he says. "Or, for that matter, to the heat and humidity, not to mention insects and other wildlife that can enter your home during the summer."

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Window toppers vary to match every taste and work with wooden shutters (above) and sheer shades that incorporate adjustable blinds between fabric layers.

PHOTOS BY TIM JEAN



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Dick and Linda Duarte's home doubles as a showroom for the windows, blinds, wooden shutters and other window fashions they sell.

Windows: Inside, looking out

Springtime and fall are the best seasons to change windows, says Dick Duarte. "It's not a good idea to have the home open to damaging cold, moisture and the winds of winter," he says. "Or, for that matter, to the heat and humidity, not to mention insects and other wildlife that can enter your home during the summer."



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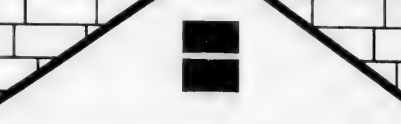
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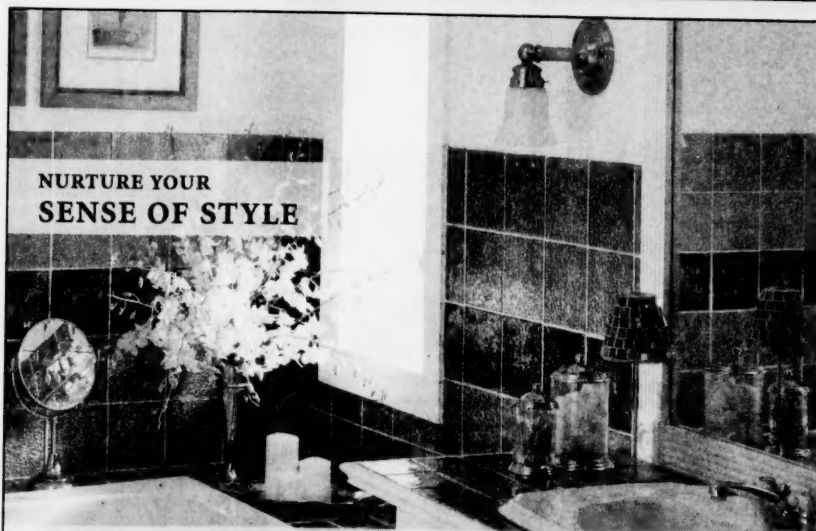
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The battle of trees versus turf

(MS) — There is a battle going on in many backyards, between people's trees and their grass. Trees and turf tend to be mutually exclusive — very few trees grow in the prairies or grasslands, and grass is uncommon on the forest floor.

Most urban landscapes represent unnatural ecosystems in which two somewhat incompatible plant types are forced together. It's difficult to expect optimum performance from both.

Trees and turf compete for sunlight, water, mineral nutrients, and growing space below ground level. Most of the time turf roots out-compete tree roots, winning the below-ground battle. But the dense shade of a tree's crown can also be too much competition for turf, enabling trees to win the aerial war. Shade leads to reduced grass density, increased root competition, and increased weed invasion.

In order for turf and trees to cohabitate, here are some areas to consider:

• Prune for light penetration

Pruning to increase light pen-

etration should be considered, keeping in mind that it is usually not a permanent solution.

Trees will grow into the voids created by pruning. That's why a rule of thumb is to remove no more than one-fourth of the tree's foliage-bearing crown in a single pruning. If a tree is thinned too much, it will be stressed and will probably produce many watersprouts (suckers) along its branches to compensate for lost foliage. This process defeats the purpose of pruning to allow more light penetration.

Another approach is to "raise" a tree's crown to improve light penetration underneath. Crown raising involves the removal of lower branches on trees, and most tree species are quite tolerant of this pruning practice.

• Root Control

Some trees tend to form surface roots, which can be a major problem in lawns. Homeowners often want to know to what extent they can prune or remove tree roots without killing the tree. Because cut roots tend to

develop more roots, root pruning is generally not a solution.

The simplest maintenance recommendation is also the most important: mulch. Mulching the root areas of trees is one of the least expensive but most beneficial techniques to enhance tree health and minimize competition with turf.

Mulch helps retain soil moisture, moderates soil temperature, and reduces competition from weeds. Organic mulch can help condition the soil and improve microbial activity.

Apply mulch 2 to 4 inches deep, but do not pile it against the tree trunks. As far as the trees are concerned, the wider the mulched area the better. Mulch groups of trees together, and extend the mulched areas as far out as practical.

• Fertilization

There is a long-standing, though inaccurate, belief that trees must be "deep-root" fertilized. This notion is associated with the myth that a tree's root system is an underground mirror of the crown. Because most of the absorbing roots are actually

in the upper few inches of soil, there is no need to place the fertilizer deeper.

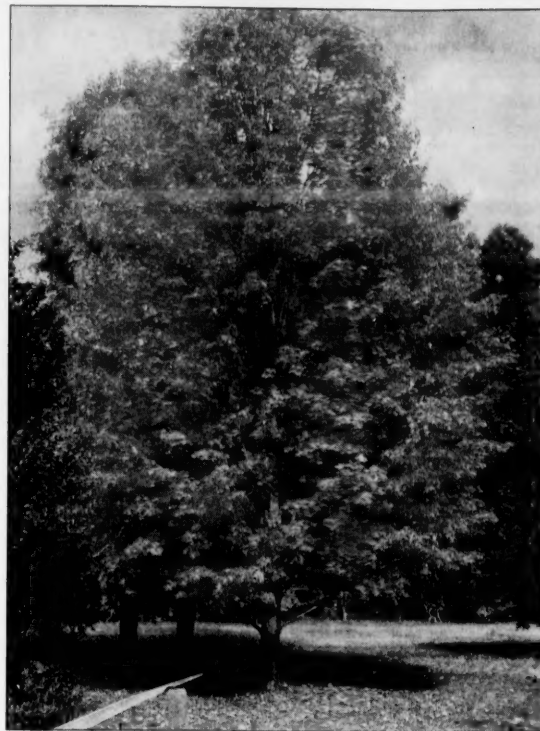
When fertilizing an area of the lawn also occupied by trees, that might be all the supplemental fertilization those trees need. The key to any fertilization program is to base the application on the plant's needs.

• Mowing

Most people don't realize the degree of damage that can be caused by the bumping of a mower or the whipping action of a nylon string trimmer. A tree's bark can only provide so much protection against these devices. Young, thin-barked trees can be damaged almost immediately. In the worst-case scenario, the trees might die. Those not killed outright will be weakened and susceptible to other injury. The wounds might also serve as entry points for diseases or insects.

• Chemical treatments

Herbicides, especially broadleaf weed killers, are often used on lawns. It is important to remember that most trees are



COURTESY PHOTO

Trees and grass can share a yard, but a landscaping plan might be needed to help both thrive.

broadleaved plants and can be injured or killed if adequate doses reach them. Homeowners should be aware that "weed and feed" fertilizers contain herbicides that can damage trees.

• Achieving a balance

Trees and turf can peacefully coexist, even thrive, in a landscape. Armed with an understanding of how each affects the other, a homeowner can modify

the environment and the maintenance procedures to optimize the growing conditions for both.

One of the best ways to be certain of making wise decisions regarding trees is to learn some basic principles of tree care. The International Society of Arboriculture offers information about trees at www.treesaregood.com. To contact an ISA-certified arborist in your area, visit www.isa-arbor.com.

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120th Arbor Day celebrated April 29

(MS) - Trees should not be taken for granted, and Arbor Day was started in the late 1800s to encourage people to appreciate them more.

The idea for a day to celebrate and foster trees came from the plains of Nebraska.

According to the National Arbor Day Foundation, journalist J. Sterling Morton moved from Detroit to Nebraska with his wife. The couple missed nature so much that they planted trees, shrubs and flowers around their home.

On the job, Morton used his status as a journalist to advocate tree planting in articles and editorials. To him, trees were not only for beauty, but to keep soil in place, provide fuel and building materials and offer shade from the sun.

Morton proposed a tree planting holiday, to be called "Arbor Day," in 1872 at a meeting of Nebraska's board of agriculture. It was officially proclaimed by that state's governor in 1874 and was named a legal state holiday in 1885.

Other states passed legislation to observe the holiday and

schools began participating as well. Today, Arbor Day is celebrated the last Friday in April (in some states, it's in months that coincide with their tree-planting weather).

Here are some suggestions, courtesy of the National Arbor Day Foundation, for celebrating Arbor Day:

- Organize an Arbor Day concert where a local school choir can sing songs about trees or songs with tree names in their titles.
- Coordinate a recycling drive. Use the money to plant a tree or garden in the community.
- Sponsor a tree-trivia contest, giving away trees as prizes.
- Host a tree-identification hike.
- Plant a tree.
- Encourage a local garden center to hold an open house.

The International Society of Arboriculture offers consumer information about trees at www.treesaregood.com. Or visit the Web site of the Arbor Day Foundation: www.arborday.org

PLANT A TREE ON EARTH DAY



(MS) - April 22 marks Earth Day. Founded 35 years ago, the annual celebration educates the public on simple ways to protect the earth's resources.

One way to protect the planet this Earth Day is by planting a tree. Trees remove air pollution, reduce energy costs, add value to home property, and can be beautiful to admire.

There's no better date than Earth Day on which to plant a tree. Trees and saplings are available at nurseries and most lawn-and-garden centers.

Even in urban areas or places without enough room to plant one, trees can be grown on a smaller scale. Try putting a tree seed in a cup or planting a seedling in a pot of soil. Then place it in a well-lit room or on a windowsill and watch it grow. Local tree planting groups or parks and recreation offices might also offer guidance on getting involved in tree-planting projects.

More information on tree planting is available at the Web site www.earthday.net.

Some plants less allergenic

(MS) - "Ah-choo!" Allergy sufferers get used to wheezing and sneezing come springtime.

But according to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, certain plants, flowers, and trees are less likely to trigger allergic reactions than others.

To keep allergies at bay this spring, place these plants in the garden or around the home: apple, begonia, cherry, clematis, columbine, daffodil, daisy, dogwood, geranium, hyacinth, hydrangea, impatiens, iris, lilac, lily, magnolia, rose, sunflower, tulip and zinnia.

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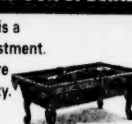
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Choosing the right lawn mower for your lawn

(MS) – Buying a lawn mower might seem like an easy decision, but considering that one should last between eight and 10 years, it's definitely a major investment.

Like most machines, mowers have so many features that purchasing can be a daunting process. Armed with enough information, though, buying a new mower could be "cut" and dried.

Answering a few key questions before going out to shop might help narrow the choices to

a more manageable number.

Start by considering the lawn. Look at the size, the number of hills and how fast the lawn grows.

Try to establish an affordable price range. One can pay from \$150 to \$1,000 or more, depending on the type of mower, the brand and the features.

Type of mower

There are three basic types of mowers to choose from: push, self-propelled and riding.

• Push mower – The simplest of

all mowers, push mowers are the cheapest. They are also the least likely to breakdown. It takes some energy to move these machines, making them better suited for flat, smaller lawns. While push mowers range in price from \$150 to \$800, good quality, sturdy machines are available in the \$200 range.

• Self-propelled – With a rotary engine to propel the mower, there's less physical exertion involved than with a push mower. When the lawn is large or has lots of hills or fast-growing grass, this type of machine is probably a good choice. However, a self-propelled mower will cost at least \$100 more than a push model. In the \$550 range, a John Deere model (JS63C) includes features such as front-swivel wheels, which make it easier to turn. Slightly less expensive at \$500, a Craftsman mower (37779) includes a blade-brake clutch and single-lever height adjustment.

• Riding mower – While this type of mower does do the work, it's only necessary for a half-acre or more of grass. They range in price from \$1,500 to \$1,800.

Choosing the options

While most mowers come with many options, it's best to decide which options will best fit a personal lawn-mowing lifestyle before making the purchase. Here are a few options to consider:

• Rear or side bag – Most lawn mowers catch the lawn clippings in the rear, which is the bag's preferred spot because it is more compact and holds more grass.

• Blade-brake clutch – This safety device stops the blade movement without turning off the engine, eliminating the need to shut down the machine every time a toy or branch must be moved out of the way.

• Single-lever height adjustment – Instead of using a wrench to adjust the height of all four wheels, this feature

does it in one step. However, it's only necessary if grass and terrain are uneven.



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